



Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-93-112
Monday
14 June 1993

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OAS Agrees to Create Organization To Banish Poverty

PA1206010693 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0107 GMT
9 Jun 93

[Text] Managua, 8 June (EFE)—The Organization of American States (OAS) decided on 8 June, to create an Inter-American Council to promote integral development, as well as to contribute to effectively banishing extreme poverty on the continent.

The new council, the establishment of which was approved today during an extraordinary general assembly session promoted by Mexico to reform the OAS Charter, will have to encourage cooperation among the states in order to accomplish their integral development.

In order to accomplish this, the new council will prepare a strategic plan that encompasses cooperation policies among nation members and will formulate guidelines for technical cooperation.

At the same time, the Inter-American Council for Integrated Development (CIDI), will be in charge of promotion and coordination, and will also assume responsibility for such issues as trade, tourism, integration, and environment, as well as to improving education and strengthening civic awareness.

The CIDI will fuse the responsibilities of two other already existing councils within the OAS: the Economic and Social Council (CIES), and the council in charge of education, science, and culture. The two councils are slated to disappear.

Mexican Ambassador Alejandro Carrillo expressed his satisfaction with the rapid approval of this reform to the OAS charter that was promoted by his delegation.

Carrillo, in his speech before the OAS General Assembly that took place in Managua, stressed the need to adopt measures that will contribute to banish extreme poverty because hunger is the principal threat to the political stability of the American countries.

The ambassador stated that "only as long as we are capable of raising the standard of living of our nations (...) will we be able to ensure the endurance of a state of right and democracy" in America.

Therefore, he called for the assertion of agreements and equilibrium, as well as for the encouragement of a "political dialogue that will put the sovereign actions of the states before definitions and circumstantial actions that are not oriented toward creating a regional environment favorable to understanding and peaceful cooperation."

Carrillo indicated to EFE that a motion to summon an extraordinary OAS meeting to analyze mechanisms to fight against poverty will most likely be approved on 10 June if his estimates are correct. The meeting is scheduled to take place in Mexico City on 14 February 1994.

Costa Rican Foreign Minister Addresses OAS

PA1106201193 Managua Radio Catolica in Spanish
1400 GMT 10 Jun 93

[Speech by Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernd Neihaus at the 23d OAS General Assembly in Managua on 9 June—live or recorded]

[Text] Ladies and Gentlemen: The courage and decisiveness demonstrated by the Nicaraguan Government and its people in their commitment to democracy despite all the difficulties are even more commendable in view of recent events in Guatemala. We all know very well the regrettable events in Guatemala and that all the social sectors strongly expressed their rejection of Mr. Serrano's self-inflicted coup. We joyously welcomed the restoration of constitutionality in Guatemala and the return of this sisterly nation to the path of democracy. This drama lived by Guatemala forces us to reflect on the future of democracy in the Americas.

We are faced with the reality that democracy remains fragile. Democracy in the Americas is still being threatened. The painful case in Haitian reminds of this every day. It was this common democratic denominator that assembled us in Santiago, Chile, and it was officially set out in the Washington Protocol in December [words indistinct] shattering, insofar as the organization is not capable of challenging [word indistinct]. No one escapes from the current situation. There are many ways to face the challenges. Practically all the Constitutions in force in the Americas set out a procedure to face a crisis without undermining the rule of law. Brazil and Venezuela have given us wonderful examples of how these mechanism can work and on how one can solve a crisis without tarnishing democratic institutions.

During the special meeting in Washington new guidelines were approved for the safeguarding of democracy. We firmly trust that the speedy implementation of the protocol will translate into the decisive strengthening of the mission of the OAS, which is to be the first one called upon to defend the reconquered liberties. The OAS can only succeed in this task with the help and the solidarity of the democracies in the Hemisphere. In this regard, our delegation believes it is very important for the OAS to look once again at the Cuban case. Cuba, ladies and gentlemen, is a member of the American family. We are united with Cuba and with the Cuban people by strong ties of brotherhood, history, as well as by cultural and ethnic similarities. The inter-American system cannot continue ignoring the Cuban case. Under the Cuban flag of the lone star and the emblem of the royal palm, there are 10 million Latin Americans whose situation we cannot ignore. The OAS cannot continue to turn away from these heroic people who gave the Americas several illustrious pages of history. Some years back the OAS was criticized—justly—when it sat the Castro regime on the stand of the accused while it remained silent before the right-wing dictatorships. Our current situation is just the opposite. Costa Rica has stated on several occasions

its desire for Cuba to return to the OAS within the framework of the principles and values set out in the OAS charter. To achieve this, the OAS must take up the Cuban case. It can do this by justly accepting that Jose Marti's land is experiencing a critical situation. We must join efforts to find a peaceful and democratic solution for Cuba with the consensus of all the Cubans and of the solidarity of the OAS family. Let us find a timely solution if we do not want the time bomb to explode in our hands.

Among 34 countries, and with the most absolute respect to the sovereignty of Cuba and the self-determination of its people, we could consider, find, and implement possible ways so that we can soon be 35 countries. To ignore Cuba does not contribute to the future of democracy in Cuba or the future of American democracy.

This same concern over the future of democracy in the American continent prompts us to insist, once more, on the importance that must be given to human rights. A society in which human rights are respected and a community in which people live in liberty and with security will be infinitely less vulnerable to the attempts to break juridical order.

A clear understanding of those rights by all the people and the existence of functional and rapid mechanisms to protect them are a basic foundation for each government. Then, it is necessary to strengthen human rights protection groups and give them active support.

When analyzing the situation of human rights in the hemisphere, Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, we cannot ignore the situation of social and economic rights and the reality of extreme poverty and misery under which so many children of America are living.

If, in fact, we believe that underdevelopment is not a justification to eliminate democracy, we cannot forget that social justice and the meeting of basic needs help consolidate and strengthen democracy. Thus, the struggle against poverty must take precedence on the agenda of the inter-American system and logically, in the budget destined for developmental cooperation.

It is also necessary to intensify the policies of horizontal cooperation [cooperacion horizontal] and increase solidarity among member countries.

Mr. President, the search for development should not become at the same time a race for destroying the environment and undermining the rights of future generations to have an inhabitable environment. Harmony with the land was natural for Indians living in pre-Colombian America and it still is for Indians of present day America, whom we pay tribute to in this international year of Indian communities.

Unfortunately, this wise attitude is not common among us, and the hemisphere continues to witness a growing phenomenon of ecological degradation. While obstacles

exist for the creation of an inter-American system to conserve nature, we, Americans, seem to be determined to eradicate nature.

Costa Rica believes it is extremely important to undertake joint actions to save our habitat. Sustainable development is not a mere concept. It is a valid possibility to guarantee the future of our children and the future of the environment in which they will raise their children. The inter-American system can and must assume a more active role in the protection of the environment. Under this situation, it is possible to think of a hemispheric plan of ecological security, with means to deal with emergencies and effective sanctions against the states that neglect their responsibilities to nature.

These [word indistinct] fertile races, as [Nicaraguan poet Ruben] Dario called them, should join systematic and active efforts so that the land they live in continues to be fertile.

The same concept of security reiterated before the OAS should undergo an in-depth review. After the drastic changes in the circumstances that preceded its inception and following the end of the East-West confrontation, the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty has become a law that has been invoked [derecho utilizado].

The truth is that before thinking about the possibility of extracontinental aggressions, America must devote its attention to design collective security mechanisms in the face of internal adversaries. These adversaries, such as drug trafficking and terrorism, strike with ferocity at societies and progressively destroy democratic institutional order.

The hemisphere needs adequate, practical, and operational instruments to make inter-American solidarity a reality in the face of these kinds of enemies. The OAS is the most adequate forum to discuss these new topics of security with an overall approach. It would be absurd if the Central American democracies could not achieve the kind of coordination as the dictatorial regimes of the 1940's. In Costa Rica's opinion, a reconsideration of the topic of security in light of the new situation and needs of the hemisphere should also draw our attention to the topic of weapons limitation.

A continental updated and efficient security system and an in-depth discussion on the topics related to weapons limitation can contribute to allocate part of the current military expenditures to social expenditures. At the same time this would help to strengthen democracies and institutional order. In this respect, Costa Rica fraternally welcomes the progress Panama and Nicaragua have made. The evils of underdevelopment can be alleviated through international cooperation. East European countries are attracting considerable attention now and diverse programs have been trimmed or canceled in Latin America.

In view of this situation, we have to make optimum use of available cooperation and show cooperating countries

and agencies the funds are properly administered. We often complain of our foreign debt, but it is also true that part of that debt has served to increase private accounts. Administrative corruption is one of the most serious evils facing Latin America, not just because of the moral baseness it entails, but also because of the way it undermines the will of third parties to continue aiding our countries.

Fortunately, impunity seems to be decreasing. Honesty alone, however, is not sufficient. We still need a lot of order, discipline, austerity, work, and savings. The evils of underdevelopment will only disappear if the underdeveloped countries toil with perseverance and honesty to raise production and diversify our economies. In this respect, we trust the development of free trade mechanisms that have taken shape and that major bilateral and multilateral agreements will become more feasible.

Respecting the uniqueness of every one, we must also strive harder regarding the integration initiatives in our countries. On this matter, Costa Rica wishes to point out with utmost satisfaction the success of the recent meeting in Jamaica of foreign ministers of the Caribbean and Central America. It made it possible to increase ties and renew channels for understanding between our countries.

Mr. President, the combination in America of old and new problems, in the face of an international panorama that has changed dramatically and has involved also the opening of old wounds, should make us think of the kind of OAS we want. We cannot ignore this is the forum of America, our forum. America comes together here. Cultural and linguistic currents converge here. Successes and failures and the positive and negative aspects of the hemisphere converge here.

The OAS is, therefore, the first called upon to enlighten the path of America and mend the ways of the American people. The attitude that prevailed in the OAS regarding the situation in Guatemala also constituted a sign of solidarity. Undoubtedly, the implementation of the Washington Protocol will also give a major boost to the democratic faith that inspires this organization. It is necessary for the state members to make the OAS the strongest defender of American democracy and the chief guarantor of peace and security in the hemisphere. An OAS that reacts swiftly, strongly, and decisively will be properly fulfilling its objectives. At the same time, we deem it opportune to reflect on some topics linked to OAS bodies. Costa Rica has been pleased to support the fusion of the two councils on technical areas. We feel this will make it possible to make better use of the resources earmarked for these areas and increase the results of the assistance programs, as all of this adds up to greater availability of funds for development.

We also deem it important to refer to the topic of geographic representation in the diverse OAS bodies. We

enthusiastically share the proposal made in Santa Cruz de la Sierra during the Rio Group meeting that the principles of rotation, representation, and equitable geographic distribution must prevail among its members. We believe these criteria must also prevail in the OAS in the broadest manner possible and in all ranks. In that spirit and in line with Article 125 of the OAS Charter, we believe the time has come for Central America to aspire to the post of secretary general.

Distinguished personalities of the hemisphere have most brilliantly occupied this post. Until now, however, all the secretaries general, without exception, have been South American nationals. We hope to get recognition for the right of Central America to aspire also to that position. We warmly thank the countries that have understood our viewpoint and support the Central American candidacy.

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen: We are a few years away from a new millennium. We must do everything within our power so that the new dawn in the calendar is also a new dawn for America. This America that, as Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal foretold, is moving toward its own redemption based on the style, character, and virtues of its people. Over America and over Nicaragua, the land immortal poet Ruben Dario portrayed full of vigor and glory and created for mankind, we feel the radiant sun of free men. Thank you.

OAS General Assembly Meeting Closes Early

PA1306002493 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish
12 Jun 93 p 5

[Article by Maria Alicia Talavera]

[Excerpts] The OAS' 23d General Assembly concluded on 11 June, one day ahead of schedule, after presenting itself with the task of promoting democracy and development in the hemisphere.

The 34 countries that are members of the organization have concluded five days of debate during which they put emphasis on strengthening democratic institutions as a way of preventing the disruption of constitutional order in the member states.

Haiti and Guatemala were the main issues. They discussed Guatemala's return to institutional order—with the election of a new president, Ramiro de Leon Carpio—and the approval of penalties against the de facto regime in Haiti; a decision that had been adopted before the resignation of that country's prime minister was known.

The presence of deposed Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who left Managua once the resignation of Haitian Prime Minister Marc Bazin became known, and the speech by the new president of Guatemala at a plenary session, gave the Managua meeting characteristics different from those of previous OAS assemblies.

Along with the debates, there were reunions and bilateral meetings between the foreign ministers of Ecuador and Peru, Diego Paredes and Oscar de la Puente, respectively. The two discussed ways of promoting greater cooperation and resolving a still-pending territorial problem. [passage omitted]

According to Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Ernesto Leal, "this Managua meeting has demonstrated that the OAS is abandoning its past passiveness and lack of determination to forge a new OAS, one that has renewed objectives, lives by its principles, and carries out its decisions."

Presidents Announce Postponement of Central American Summit

PA1106134893 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] The presidents of Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador have announced the postponement of the Central American summit, which was scheduled to take place in mid-June. They also announced their support of the Central American integration process.

In a joint news conference by the three presidents after a private meeting held in Guatemala City, they announced the postponement of the summit until the beginning of August, at the request of new Guatemalan President Ramiro De Leon Carpio.

Cuba

Haitian Military Recognizes Aristide Legitimacy

FL1206125093 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Today, according to parliamentary sources in Port-au-Prince, Haitian military leaders recognize the legitimacy of Jean-Bertrand Aristide as chief of state and are willing to accept his reestablishment as president.

Commentary Lauds U.S. Stand Against Hostile Acts

FL1206020793 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Commentary by unidentified reporter]

[Text] Maybe you are like me in that when a neighbor makes a positive gesture, small though it may be, it is something you always remember. Maybe that is what happened to me with the U.S. Government's decision to imprison or fine—or both—anyone who commits hostile actions against Cuba from U.S. territory.

The 30-plus years of the U.S. blockade against Cuba have marked the relations between these two neighbors so geographically close but [words indistinct] key issues as to the sovereignty of Cuba and Latin America, and of human rights, to mention only two cases.

I ask myself what repercussions this decision might have. How will this decision be received by the anti-Cuban groups who carry out hostile acts against Cuba from the United States, and by those who applauded the Torricelli Law that reinforces the blockade? I believe the answer is much more complex. I think it is up to President William Clinton's administration. But, according to many analysts, President Clinton's administration is currently very concerned and busy with domestic affairs.

At any rate, when it comes to neighbors, I believe time will tell; but a gesture is always taken into account.

Foreign Minister Robaina Arrives in Vienna

FL1306234093 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Excerpt] On 12 June, Roberto Robaina arrived in Vienna, Austria, to carry out his first mission abroad as Cuba's Foreign Minister and participate in the World Conference on Human Rights. Since his arrival in this beautiful city, Foreign Minister Robaina has been briefed on preparations for the World Conference on Human Rights on 14 June, and which have been preceded by complex moments and tense discussions due to the lack of consensus on key elements between the North and South. [passage omitted]

Agreements on Denuclearization of Korea Noted

FL1306215293 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] The agreements reached in New York between the United States and the DPRK to resolve the denuclearization crisis in the Korean peninsula have had widespread international repercussions. A joint declaration expresses the desire of both nations to reach a permanent solution to the atomic issue in Korean territory.

In that regard, three premises have been established: guarantees against threats or use of force, including nuclear weapons; maintaining peace and security in a denuclearized Korean peninsula; and supporting the peaceful reunification of Korea. These principles include mutual respect of each state's sovereignty and noninterference in the domestic affairs of both countries.

Furthermore, the delegations expressed their satisfaction with the joint declaration signed by Pyongyang and Seoul on the goals of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

Meanwhile, the government of South Korea issued a declaration in which it viewed as positive the DPRK's decision not to withdraw from the nonproliferation treaty, which should have materialized today. In the same manner, the PRC praised the progress achieved in the talks between the DPRK and the United States in the nuclear sphere.

Commentary Reviews Visit to Chile by Carlos Lage

PA1306042793 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Roberto Morejon commentary]

[Text] The five-day visit to Chile by Cuban Vice President Carlos Lage can be considered the most important event since the reestablishment of bilateral relations at consular and commercial level on 19 July 1991.

Even though Cuba and Chile interrupted their relations at ambassadorial level in 1973, Lage's visit to Chile forecasts greater understanding at the economic level and the identification of common political points.

This will be aided by numerous interviews by Lage, who is also secretary of the Cuban council of ministers, with important Chilean public figures, starting with President Patricio Aylwin.

Carlos Lage also talked with Interior Minister Enrique Krauss and Christian Democratic Senator Eduardo Frei, candidate for the ruling Agreement for Democracy [Concertacion para la Democracia] party in the presidential elections to be held on 11 December. Polls show Frei as the favorite to win.

Lage's contacts with many parliamentarians of diverse political leanings, allowed him to perceive a growing feeling of condemnation toward the U.S. blockade to Cuba.

Lage also received demonstrations of solidarity with Cuba from popular organizations and Communist party leaders with whom he met, including Secretary General Volodia Teitelboim.

Observers cannot fail to note the strong affective ties between Cubans and Chileans, especially if one recalls that thousands of Chileans migrated to Cuba following Augusto Pinochet's military coup in 1973.

Carlos Lage, as a strategist of the Cuban economy, talked to businessmen, some of whom have already formalized deals with Havana. Lage studied Chile's experience in investments, a branch in which Cuba will take its first steps.

Increasing commercial contacts over the past few years and the increase in Chilean tourists, was made easier by the 1992 opening of new air routes between both countries.

These new air routes, together with the impact of Carlos Lage's visit, will surely contribute to an increase in all sorts of ties between Chileans and Cubans, which already have a strong common cultural and historic background.

Ventura Assesses Guantanamo Storm Damage

FL1106195093 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0900 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Report by Guantanamo Province correspondent Jose Mejias]

[Text] The period of intense rain that Cuba's easternmost province, Guantanamo, went through just a few days ago was characterized by solidarity, (an efficient) management structure, an adequate level of decision-making, and determination and discipline on the part of the population. Such was the assessment made by Politburo member Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, who is touring the areas affected by the passage across Cuba's eastern half of the year's first tropical depression.

Accompanied by authorities from the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], the Cuban Government, and mass organizations, Machado Ventura visited the Guantamito neighborhood (near) the Bano River, which rose almost four meters above its usual level, destroying homes—which provoked the rapid, immediate, evacuation of (people) and (their) possessions.

At the Primero de Mayo settlement in the western part of the capital, Machado Ventura talked with a group of construction workers building 83 low-cost housing units for residents who suffered damages, where Machado learned that (the work is ahead of schedule).

Machado also visited Yateras, one of the municipalities most affected by the intense rain. There, (Dario Noa),

PCC first secretary in this mountain municipality, presented a report of the damages, calculated at over 3 million pesos. The report included the loss of: 40 tons of coffee that was ready for export; over 25 caballerias of different crops; several kilometers of electric power and phone lines; and 67 houses razed by flood waters. These houses are already being rebuilt, with massive support from the entire population.

Machado Ventura said: These are difficult times, but we feel confident that people will quickly recover from a loss of faith; and the sobriety with which the population of Guantanamo is tackling the task leads us to say that the determination to get on with things is (just around the corner).

Haiti

Nerette Council of Ministers Meeting Postponed

FL1106175993 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] According to a memorandum signed by Dr. Louis Antoine Auguste, secretary general of the Council of Ministers, the Council session, called for 9 June by former provisional president Joseph Nerette, has been postponed to an indefinite date. The memorandum says that the meeting was postponed following a request by ministers who have not completed preparation of their files.

This session should bring together the ministers who have been in their posts since 22 June 1992. It has been explained that during the meeting, the Council will identify the files to be handed over to the new Union, Reconciliation, and Social Peace government that will be formed by President Nerette.

Aristide Requests, Adrien Rejects Assumption of Power

FL1106183693 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in Creole 1130 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] The National Front for Change and Democracy [FNCD] has reaffirmed its hope that Article 148 be applied, with a government to deputize. In the FNCD's opinion, power should be assumed by the pro-Aristide presidential commission while waiting for President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to choose a prime minister who would allow the return to constitutional order. According to FNCD Spokesman Senator Turneb Delpé, it is a practical solution:

[Begin recording, in French] The FNCD has taken note of all the reactions aroused by its 8 June declaration in which it asked the military institution to leave the political arena and the presidential commission to provisionally assume the executive power in the spirit of Art [as heard]. Article 148 of the Constitution expects President Aristide to begin procedures for the restoration of constitutional order. This stand reflects the concern of the majority of Haitians who just want to retrieve from the Army the 16 December 1990 power, confiscated

since 30 September 1991. The FNCD, representing the people's demands, believes that under these special circumstances, practical measures that can offer an alternative, especially legitimacy, are necessary. This is the motive behind the FNCD initiative. [end recording]

It is to be noted that the presidential negotiating commission does not agree with the FNCD proposal asking it to assume power and deputize while awaiting continuation of the negotiations. According to Father Antoine Adrien, what is important for the moment is the return of Father Aristide and the resignation of all the Haitian Army high officials. Father Adrien thinks that one of the points for resolving the crisis is cancellation of the results of the 18 January legislative elections. Father Adrien explains that the presidential commission may not even provisionally assume the prerogatives of an executive power because that is not its role. It is not its job because the Constitution does not provide for a presidential commission to assume power.

Unions Support Naming of Prime Minister by Aristide

FL1106205193 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] The nation's main labor unions oppose any solution proposed by the Army to resolve the crisis. In a joint communique, CATH [Autonomous Organizations of Haitian Workers], CGT [General Organization of Workers], OGIT [General and Independent Organization of Haitian Worker], CTH [Confederation of Haitian Workers], FOS [Federation of Workers Trades Union], and KOTA [Confederation of Haitian Blue-Collar Workers] favor the designation of a prime minister by ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

Those labor unions add that the prime minister should be ratified by legislators, excluding those elected in the 18 January elections. CATH, OGIT, CTH, FOS, KOTA, and CGT call for respect for the Constitution and invite the Army to withdraw from political matters.

Menchu Meets With President Salinas

PA1406001593 Mexico City Canal 13 Television Azteca Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 10 Jun 93

[Text] Nobel Peace Prize winner Rigoberta Menchu met with President Carlos Salinas de Gortari on 9 June to exchange opinions on the situation in Guatemala. Menchu denied the purpose of her meeting with President Salinas was to request his intervention in the conflict in her country. She said that the president expressed his concern that democracy will be harmed in Central America. Prior to her meeting with the president, Rigoberta Menchu held a news conference at the Mexico City airport. She said that the crisis in Guatemala is not yet over:

[Begin Menchu recording] The crisis is not over. Instead, we are beginning a phase of solutions to the crisis. We do not know how it will evolve in the future. That is why a vote of confidence is necessary, but this does not mean civilian society should decrease its actions. [end recording]

She stressed that the events in her country act as a detonator for other democracies on the continent.

[Begin Menchu recording] Many efforts have been joined together to see the establishment of real democracy rather than a democracy that only exists on paper. The institutions that have lost credibility must be cleaned up. [end recording]

Menchu will visit Mexico for two days and will then leave for a conference in Vienna. She stressed that the attitude of the international community has been praiseworthy, but it must continue to be on alert so that a constitutional system will be reestablished and the international community's assistance will not be seen as a blank check. Regarding former President Jorge Serrano Elias, she said the law must be enforced against those who violate it.

Jalisco Police Officers Charged With Corruption

PA1206140393 Mexico City XHTV Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] After the latest shoot-out in Guadalajara, members of the Federal Judicial Police [PJF] arrested three of Joaquin Guzman Loera's, alias El Chapo Guzman, accomplices.

In addition, two high-ranking Jalisco State police are being charged with receiving large amounts of money from alleged drug traffickers, who apparently belong to El Chapo Guzman's gang.

Felipe Vasquez Gutierrez, former commander of the riot control squad of Jalisco State Public Security Directorate, and Luis Atilano Murillo Villanueva, chief of the computing section of the same state police department, are the two charged police officers. Murillo Villanueva has not yet been arrested. Vasquez Gutierrez has confessed receiving \$10,000 from a man he claims is named Raul Guzman.

Apparently, these were payments to the police to allow the free transit of the drug trafficking groups, not only through the metropolitan area of Guadalajara, but through the whole state.

Thus, eight police chiefs—federal, state, and municipal—have been brought before a criminal judge after their ties to drug trafficking gangs have been proven.

On the other hand, there was a surprise change at the Jalisco State PJF. Two days after replacing the now imprisoned Antonio Vejos Camacho, Fidel Antonio Cancino Albores was removed from office. The Attorney General's Office appointed Roberto Machuca Aguilar, former chief of the PJF and currently federal prosecutor, to replace Cancino Albores. It was unofficially confirmed that Cancino Albores was charged with criminal activities in Colima State and will, therefore, be investigated.

El Salvador

FMLN Involvement in Weapons Cache Discussed

PA1106153693 San Salvador TCS Television Network
in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Jun 93

[Text] The winds that are blowing are not favorable to the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], but they are particularly unfavorable to one of its organizations, the Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces [FPL]. The discovery of more weapons in Nicaragua has again raised the dust.

Even though the FPL is mainly responsible for the discovery of the weapons, Ana Guadalupe Martinez of the Peoples Revolutionary Army leadership says the cost of that mistake will also be paid by the FMLN because it is the political organization to which the FPL belongs. Martinez said this is not the first time weapons have been found and it presumably will not be the last. Who is to blame? The same organization: The FPL. Martinez' reaction is among the strongest prompted by this situation.

[Begin recording] [Martinez] The people in this country who favor war are the most widely rejected. There may be people who want to continue the war, but they will have to pay a political price. That is why the discovery of weapons has been a negative sign that the FPL must correct in due time.

[Unidentified reporter] It is obvious that you must clear up the weapons issue to prevent the FMLN from getting involved.

[Martinez] The FPL has pledged to deal with this situation and I believe it must do so very responsibly to avoid harming the FMLN.

[Reporter] Have you influenced any other organizations into trying to get the FPL to respond to all the things that are happening in Nicaragua?

[Martinez] I personally believe it is necessary to have convictions. In other words, the FPL must be convinced that the war phenomenon will not find support at this time. Anyone who shows a desire for war must obviously pay the price. [end recording]

Martinez believes that everything that is happening could be the result of a certain distrust by sectors involved in the peace process, who fear the agreement will not be fulfilled. She said that over one year after the change in Salvadoran society, things must change. Martinez insisted that the FMLN must confirm its resolve to wage a political struggle.

Onusal Gives Inventory of FMLN Weapons

PA1206213493 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in
Spanish 1800 GMT 10 Jun 93

[Report by Balmore Parada]

[Text] Augusto Ramirez Ocampo, who heads the mission of UN Observers for El Salvador, Onusal, said that the Salvadoran peace process is on the right path, despite the difficulties and recent adjustments in the time table.

In his first report after he replaced Pakistani Iqbal Riza, Ramirez Ocampo gave details about the weapons inventory that belonged to the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN].

[Begin Ramirez Ocampo recording] The following are FMLN weapons inventoried by Onusal up to 10 June 1993:

Weapons found in El Salvador: 376 pistols, 187 submachine guns, 5,261 rifles, 155 machine guns, 208 grenade launchers, 71 surface-to-air missiles, including those found abroad up to 10 June, 289 mortars, 45 recoilless guns, 55 rockets inside El Salvador and 19 in Nicaragua.

Weapons found outside of El Salvador: 2,278 rifles, six machine guns, 281 grenade launchers, 71 surface-to-air missiles—which I already mentioned—21 mortars, five recoilless guns, and 19 rockets, also previously mentioned.

During the past two weeks, we have been actively present in Nicaragua. This includes myself, as chief of the Onusal mission, as well as Police Division Commander General (Bass), Military Division Commander Colonel Alejandri, and three lieutenant colonels from both divisions. We were accompanied by three FPL representatives, who have given us the location of new arms caches, as far as they know. There are supposedly 15 places, according to the information that they gave us. Most of those locations have been verified, and we have found only empty houses, or in some cases, important documents. We have verified three of the five locations where arsenals were supposedly located. One on the 34th km on the road to Masachapa; correction, on the 32d km of the same road; another one in an auto shop on the road to Masaya, which was verified; and a third one on the road to Tipitapa. This, of course, in addition to the arsenal found in the Santa Rosa neighborhood, where the explosion occurred.

Thus far, we have found 1,250 rifles, approximately five tons of explosives and other war materiel, including more than 1 million ammunition clips, and 15,000 electronic detonators.

Once we complete our work with the three FPL representatives, the conclusive support from the Nicaraguan Government, and the Armed Forces, we will present a complete report on the situation in order to keep the public duly informed. [end recording]

UN Charges FMLN of Violating Peace Agreement

PA1306032693 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 12 Jun 93 p 5

[Text] The UN Security Council considered the hiding of an FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] arsenal to be "the most serious violation to the peace agreements" of El Salvador and instructed the former terrorist organization to surrender all weapons still in their possession.

The UN stated its position in a declaration that was disclosed by UN Security Council President Juan Antonio Yanez Barnuevo and made public in San Salvador on 11 June.

The security council indicates that it has noted "with concern" the content of a letter by the UN Secretary General related to the existence of clandestine weapons caches in Nicaragua belonging to the FMLN.

The council believes that maintaining the weapons caches constitutes the most serious violation to date of the commitments adopted by virtue of the peace agreements, which were signed in Mexico on 16 January 1992. In addition, the council agrees with the secretary general's opinion that it constitutes reason for serious concern.

The UN reiterates its demands that the peace agreements must be fully and promptly honored. At the same time, it once again urges the FMLN to precisely honor the obligation that it contracted, which was to provide a complete inventory of its weapons and ammunitions within as well as outside El Salvador, and to surrender them.

The high-ranking UN figure acknowledges the cooperation received from the Nicaraguan Government in preparing an inventory of the uncovered war equipment and in its destruction.

Finally, it trusts that the parties signatories to the peace agreement will persevere in their efforts to complete the peace process and national reconciliation of El Salvador.

The UN Security Council note is a reply to a letter by UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali, who also expressed that "independent of the results that the investigation may disclose, I must point out that the maintenance of a clandestine weapons arsenal, for whatever reasons, is reason for concern, and the fact that those weapons were not included in the final inventory presented by the FMLN to Onusal [UN Observers to El Salvador] raises serious doubts as relates to trust."

At the same time he warns that "it must be made clear to those responsible that the process itself could be jeopardized if this type of unfavorable incident were to be repeated."

The FPL [Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces]-FMLN weapons cache included rockets, 35,000 tons of TNT, and numerous forged passports. In addition, the existence of a weapons arsenal has been condemned by

different sectors, who are demanding an explanation from the former terrorists since it was thought that they had surrendered all of their weapons and incorporated themselves into the democratic process.

UN Security Council Criticizes FMLN for Accords Violation

PA1206045093 San Salvador Radio Venceremos Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] The UN Security Council has condemned the peace accords' violation by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] in El Salvador and termed it the most critical violation throughout the peace process.

Spanish Ambassador Juan Antonio Yanez Barrionuevo, the State Council chairman, issued a declaration stating that there is cause for great concern because the FMLN, which has become a political party, still has clandestine arms caches.

The council reasserted that the Mexico accords must be fully and promptly fulfilled and urged the FMLN to turn over its inventory, weapons, and ammunition to the UN Observers for El Salvador.

UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali notified the council about the discovery of clandestine FMLN arms caches in Managua, Nicaragua on 9 June and requested their prompt action.

'Diplomatic Sources' Question U.S. Intelligence

PA1206190693 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 11 Jun 93 p 5

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 10 Jun (Special Service)—The discovery of "arms caches" belonging to the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front-Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces FMLN-FPL in Managua has raised serious questions, not only about the simple ownership of the arsenals or the Sandinists' involvement in this case, but also about the efficiency of the portentous U.S. Government intelligence network in Central America.

Diplomatic sources who asked not to be identified said in Tegucigalpa that it is almost incredible that U.S. intelligence personnel and tracking instruments, including monitors and telephone eavesdropping equipment; and satellites capable of reading newspaper headlines thousands of miles away, identifying and measuring caloric masses, or the concentration of metals and explosives, did not detect the presence of arsenals in predominantly civilian zones.

The sources said that since they lacked adequate instruments to verify if the FMLN had delivered all its weapons, the "Four Friendly Countries" (Spain, Mexico, Venezuela, and Colombia), the UN Observers for El Salvador, and UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali issued a certification based on reports by U.S. Government intelligence services.

The same sources added that the question is: if U.S. intelligence sources knew they could not detect all the hidden arsenals, why did they confirm to the United Nations they did not exist.

The ceremonies at which weapons were destroyed in the presence of representatives from the international community and hundreds of journalists made the public believe the FMLN had abandoned the path of violence and had joined the peace process as a political party.

In addition, the sources noted, the international community exerted pressure on the Salvadoran Nationalist Republican Alliance government to make concessions to the FMLN, including constitutional reforms, the dissolution of security corps, the reduction of the Army, the removal of top military officers mentioned in the Truth Commission's report, as well as other actions that have caused the intensification of common crime and destabilization in the country to levels close to an institutional crisis.

According to the sources, documents found in the FMLN-FPL arms caches also revealed—and this could only be the tip of the iceberg—links between the owners and an extensive network of international terrorism and gunrunning. The documents also disclosed—much to the embarrassment of the Spanish Government—links between the Sandinists and the FMLN with Basque terrorists of the separatist Basque Fatherland and Liberty, ETA. At the same time the Spanish Government helped the Sandinist National Liberation Front and openly supported the FMLN, those groups were supporting the ETA, which was murdering Spanish Government officials. "We can be sure of one thing: the arms caches still hold many surprises for the international community," the sources said.

FMLN Delegation Departs for China

PA1206125793 San Salvador Radio Farabundo Marti Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] On 10 June a Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] delegation left for the People's Republic of China at the invitation of the Chinese Association for International Understanding.

During their stay in China, the visiting FMLN members—Sigfredo Reyes, Jose Luis Quang, and Miguel Amaya—will meet with government, political, business, and social entities of China.

As a permanent member of the UN Security Council, China has supported the efforts of the UN secretary general to bring peace to El Salvador.

An FMLN spokesman said it is expected that the visit will open for our country new possibilities as a result of a greater integration in the world's economy and a greater access to new cooperation sources.

Deputies Against Suspension of FMLN Party Status

PA1306133193 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 12 Jun 93 p 3

[Text] When asked their opinion on whether the Supreme Electoral Tribunal [TSE] should suspend the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front's [FMLN] party status for possessing weapons, several deputies agreed in saying that such a suspension could be legal but would not be politically wise because it could endanger the peace process.

Rafael Moran Orellana of the National Conciliation Party [PCN] said the Constitution clearly prohibits armed political parties, and from a legal point of view the FMLN's violation is grounds for suspending the party. However, because of the true political situation in El Salvador, Moran said it would not be suitable to suspend the party because it could take up arms again and renew the war.

According to Deputy Moran, the important thing is that it has been demonstrated that political transactions with communist forces always stumble. He said the people will dismiss the FMLN in the 1994 elections.

Mario Valiente of the Nationalist Republican Alliance has urged the FMLN to comply with the peace agreements. He said his party has never asked the Supreme Electoral Tribunal to dismiss the front. "That decision is up to that high institution," he said.

Christian Democratic Party Deputy Roberto Viera said the people are not surprised that the FMLN has weapons because the front has always believed that the government has not fulfilled its peace agreement commitments, either. He said an appeal for compliance must be made to both sectors, thus enhancing the peace process.

Ruben Zamora of Democratic Convergence said the Electoral Tribunal must caution the FMLN that it cannot have weapons. He termed it regrettable that the Salvadoran defense minister has called for the front's dismissal because the Armed Forces are apolitical and therefore General Emilio Ponce should not make such statements.

Ponce Comments on Reorganization of Armed Forces

PA1106131993 San Salvador Radio Cadena Central in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Jun 93

[Text] The draft bill for the new Armed Forces basic law that will facilitate the Army's reorganization was presented on 8 June by the high command to the Legislative Assembly Political Committee, according to Defense and Public Security Minister General Rene Emilio Ponce.

[Begin recording] [Ponce] The high command has presented to the Legislative Assembly Political Committee

the draft bill for the Armed Forces basic law. The existing basic law was written in 1981 and reformed in 1985. To modernize, restructure, and reorganize the Armed Forces it was necessary to have a law adjusted to the constitutional reforms that have taken place [words indistinct] at the Assembly.

[Unidentified reporter] What differences exist between the draft bill and the current law?

[Ponce] The old or current law is a national defense basic law that mixes the concept of national defense with the organization of the Armed Forces. The new law refers solely to the organization of the Armed Forces. That is why it is called the Armed Forces basic law. Apart from this we are [word indistinct] the concept of military organization as it pertains to the Air Force which, if the law is approved, will be called the Salvadoran Air Force, and the National Navy's name will change to the Salvadoran Naval Forces. We will thus reorganize [words indistinct] and adjust to the modern (?doctrine) on military organization.

The law will also establish the main lecture hall [aulas mayores] concept in place of what is currently known as commands in the Air Force, Army, and Navy.

[Reporter] The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] presented its weapons inventory to the UN Observers for El Salvador [Onusal]. Even so, arsenals that presumably belong to the FMLN have been found in Nicaragua. What can you tell us about this?

[Ponce] You may recall that when the FMLN presented its weapons inventory to Onusal, I said that the FMLN had declared only one-third of the weapons it owned because I had been informed that they had more weapons [words indistinct]. The weapons found in the arsenals in Nicaragua could have been stored in Nicaragua or may have been sent from El Salvador to Nicaragua when the armed uprising ended.

It is important to point out the irresponsibility displayed by the FMLN as a whole by not presenting a real inventory. They have scoffed at the good faith of an entire people who yearn for peace; they have scoffed at the United Nations and the government. I believe this is inconceivable and should be condemned widely. [end recording]

Drug Interdiction Unit Seizes 4 Tons of Cocaine

PA1206132093 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Report by Hilda Quijano]

[Text] Members of the Drug Interdiction Executive Unit on 10 June seized approximately 4 tons of cocaine valued in excess of 800 million colones. The drug was found in a warehouse located on the road to San Antonio Abad, southwest of this capital.

Preparations for the operation began approximately two months ago with international support and included the DEA's participation on an advisory level. Results were successful according to the officials in charge, who hit their target on 10 June.

Experts found the drug in a trailer inside a warehouse at an industrial complex located on the road to San Antonio Abad, southwest of San Salvador.

[Begin unidentified official recording] This operation has taken months, not days, and you can see the results were successful. It has been one of the most successful results achieved by this type of operation in Latin America. [end recording]

The result was the confiscation of 160 boxes with a Colombian company's logo—each containing 15 2-kg packages—and 22 bags from the Institute of Supply Regulation, IRA, which no longer exists. These bags had also been filled with the drug.

[Begin unidentified official recording] I do not believe there are less than 4 tons given the number of bags in each box. Each box contained 15 2-kg bags, meaning 30 kg per box. We must also weigh the IRA bags to determine the weight and calculate the cost. [end recording]

According to the information, two persons have been arrested. One of them is a Colombian and the other one is a Mexican. The prisoners were not presented to the media but it was unofficially reported they are possibly linked with the Sinaloa Cartel, which assassinated Cardinal Juan de Jesus Posadas Ocampo.

[Begin recording] [First unidentified official] The arrests are being simultaneously carried out at this moment.

[Unidentified reporter] Are they Salvadoran citizens?

[First unidentified official] I have no information about Salvadoran citizens. You will be given the information later. Right now we have a Colombian citizen and a Mexican citizen.

[Second unidentified official] We have yet to determine who owns the warehouse or who rents it, the weight of the drug, and its approximate value. We will soon have all the information. Right now we are making random tests of the drug. [end recording]

This is undoubtedly one of the most overwhelming blows sustained by drug traffickers so far this year; and it proves our country is being used as part of the drug trafficking routes.

Guatemala

Guerrillas Announce Cease-Fire as Goodwill Gesture

PA1406021593 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2042 GMT
13 Jun 93

[Text] Mexico City, 13 Jun (EFE)—Guerrillas have suspended their military offensive operations in Guatemala as a goodwill gesture toward the new president of that country, Ramiro de Leon Carpio, a rebel source said in Mexico City.

The suspension of the military actions are intended "to give time" to De Leon to organize his government, Luis Beker, member of the political-diplomatic commission of the rebel Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG), said in statements published by the private Mexican newspaper, LA JORNADA, on 13 June.

De Leon was sworn in as president of Guatemala on 6 June following the political crisis that resulted from the self-inflicted coup staged on 25 May by the now deposed President Jorge Serrano, who is currently in Panama.

Beker said that the rebel cease-fire is an attempt to allow De Leon to hold talks with Guatemalan civilian sectors before resuming peace talks in this Central American country—the only one at war in the region.

Beker's statement contradicted Army reports that clashes were held between soldiers and guerrillas, resulting in a soldier and two rebels killed near Solola Department on 12 June.

The URNG called on De Leon on 11 June to resume peace negotiations, after the guerrillas suspended it on 27 May to protest Serrano's self-inflicted coup.

After being sworn in the new president of Guatemala, De Leon said that the resumption of the talks was not an immediate priority of his government.

The URNG said that even though the former human rights ombudsman has been sworn in as the new Guatemalan president, "the Army continues to be the central axis of power" in this country.

The participants in the negotiations between the URNG and the Guatemalan Government have been holding periodical talks in Mexico since April 1991.

The last time that both sides met was between 5 and 8 May and their next meeting is scheduled for September in Mexico City.

URNG Supports De Leon Carpio's Election

PA1106134593 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish
2308 GMT 10 Jun 93

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Jun (NOTIMEX)—On 10 June the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG)

stated that Ramiro De Leon Carpio's election by Congress as Guatemalan president is "an adequate solution" to overcome the political crisis that the country was experiencing.

In a communique that was disclosed in Mexico City, the URNG described "as a historical feat" the fact that Guatemalan society blocked "the recalcitrant plans of the military clique allied to Serrano and made them retreat."

Former Human Rights Prosecutor De Leon Carpio was appointed president last Sunday [6 June] after two weeks of a political crisis that prompted the ouster from power of Jorge Serrano Elias, who had led the self-coup on 25 May.

The URNG indicated that the institutional solution to the crisis "without any doubt opens exceptional paths for a future solution to our problems."

"It should not be forgotten that the main objective of the coup attempt was to bury any possibility of a political solution to the armed conflict or the general crisis, as well as to impose unlimited military and repressive solutions," the URNG stated.

The guerrilla leadership called on the new president for a meeting "in Central America" with the presence of conciliator Rodolfo Quezada Toruno, with the objective of exchanging points of view in the search for solutions to the armed conflict.

In addition, the guerrilla leaders feel it may be necessary to apply urgent and immediate measures to assuage the Guatemalan people's economic situation. Among these measures, the URNG mentioned cutting the cost of electricity, transportation, and basic staples.

The URNG also emphasized the role played by the international community in solving the political crisis and called for its support in watching over respect for human rights.

URNG Message to President, People Viewed

PA1206222093 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 11 Jun p 82

[Paid Ad by Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity]

[Text] Having held back the top military leadership's recalcitrant plans, allied with Serranism, and observing their surrender, is undoubtedly a historic accomplishment.

It was one of the rare occasions in our nation's history when the dreadfully oppressive apparatus that commits excesses and oppression was not able to consolidate its transgressions.

The events that took place in the last 15 days demonstrate with their brutality the true dimension of our nation's problem. The outcome can undoubtedly open exceptional avenues for the solution of our problems in the future.

The appointment of Ramiro De Leon Carpio as the new president, given his qualities as human rights ombudsman, his active and outstanding role while in the opposition, and his resistance to the coupist imposition, is a respectable solution to the constitutional and institutional crisis.

It is impossible to ignore and not to point out that the same hands and the same forces that originated the coup, are now defining the current scenario, even though the actors, in few cases, are different.

While power continues to be centered in the Armed Forces, their duties have not been redefined; obedience to the civilian power has not been implemented; institutions are still not created with the participation of the people; the problem of society's militarization has not been resolved; and the president's general staff continues to be a military apparatus under presidential control. While all of this continues, the repression, threats, and constant pressures on the country's democratization will be a permanent and true reality, as was clearly demonstrated by recent events.

It cannot be forgotten that the coupist project's main goal was to bury all possibility of a political solution to the armed conflict and the general crisis, and to impose, without limits, a military and repressive solution.

This is why the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG], without diminishing the expectations generated by the new president, calls on all sectors of society and the international community to meditate this situation, so that the hopes that were generated will not be dashed once again.

To President De Leon:

1. [URNG] exhorts him as president, in keeping with his line of conduct as human rights ombudsman: to watch over and demand that these [rights] be broadly and immediately respected in our country, particularly, by those who played a decisive role within the Human Rights Global Agreement that was signed in the negotiating process;

2. To implement across the board, the Queretaro Agreement, which in its essential and specific points, defines what democratization should be in our country.

3. To apply urgently and immediately, measures aimed at lightening the deep and critical economic and social load that our people are carrying.

The cost of electricity, transportation, and food stuffs must be reduced, while health and education services must be increased.

New sources of employment must be created to reduce the alarming levels of unemployment and underemployment, and a policy to increase salaries must also be implemented;

4. To reconsider the priority assigned to the negotiating process and, in keeping with the format and the agreements signed in Oslo and in Mexico, reopen the negotiating process between the Government Armed Forces and the URNG. This must be done with a flexible political willingness that will allow the achievement of a just and democratic peace;

5. We ask your for a meeting to be held in the presence of Monsignor Rodolfo Quezada Toruno, in Central America, between you and a delegation of the URNG General Command to exchange ideas and opinions while searching for a political solution.

We call on all civilian sectors and the people of Guatemala in general to:

1. Keep up and step up their struggle, their stance, and the validity of their positions in search of a national consensus that will conclude in a solution of the crisis and end the causes that motivated the internal armed conflict;

2. To keep active the demand of greater participation of the civilian sectors in the negotiating process. The current conditions favor as never before, this position's validity.

To the international community, in recognition and commendation of the exceptional role that it has played in the current critical situation, we request that it:

1. Keep up its support and vigilance so that the democratic process—with the appointment of President Ramiro De Leon Carpio—can develop and overcome the obstacles that the Armed Forces' recalcitrant structures are going to present to him.

2. Express its support and solidarity so that the negotiating process can be reopened and develop into other conditions and perspectives.

3. Watch over and give full respect to human rights and the struggle against impunity in our country.

URNG General Command, 10 June 1993

[signed] Commander Rolando Moran; Commander Pablo Monsato; Commander Gaspar Ilom; Carlos Gonzalez, secretary general of the Guatemalan Labor Party's central committee.

Defense Minister Forecasts Army Reconversion

PA1206030193 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish
0048 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 11 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Guatemalan Defense Minister General Roberto Perussina announced on 11 June the Army's reconversion and the disappearance of the Civilian Self-Defense Patrols (PAC) as soon as the armed conflict ends. The new defense minister, who was sworn in on 11 June to replace General Jose Domingo Garcia Samayoa, said that the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity

(URNG) will have no other option but to dissolve its forces because it only has 800 members. The military commander said that the military corps is willing to readjust its forces, comprised of 47,000 members, if the guerrilla fronts are dissolved. Nevertheless, he explained that the corps have not considered a reduction of its forces for the time being. Referring to the PAC, comprised of approximately 800,000 men, he said that they were created in 1982 to cooperate in the counterinsurgency struggle, "and they must disappear when the armed conflict ends because they are the only ones who provide protection in their communities." Perussina said that the military will support any decision adopted by President Ramiro De Leon Carpio concerning the peace negotiations, which were suspended in May. [passage omitted]

De Leon Carpio on Relations With Military

PA1206161393 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish
0959 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Mexico City, 12 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Ramiro De Leon Carpio, the recently elected president of Guatemala, in a meeting with his cabinet and advisers to learn about the impact on the economy following the 25 May coup, said the economy suffered a blow that could have been disastrous.

In an interview on the newscast "24 Hours" on Mexican private television broadcast on 11 June, Carpio added, however, that the country's economic recovery is fantastic due to international support.

The economy is recovering due to the immediate and incredible trust of the Guatemalan people, investors, and the international community, who strongly reacted against the coup d'etat.

That is why there was an immediate favorable reaction for Guatemala when the constitutional order was restored, the president said.

The economic situation is difficult, but it has not led to a crisis because of the coup.

"The Guatemalan economy has always been difficult in all areas, but we are willing to deal with it, especially following a national consensus and the great commitment I made, naturally with the support of all Guatemalans and with all sectors of society."

As for his reelection, De Leon Carpio said this is not possible because when he agreed to become president it was a historic challenge. He knew he was "sacrificing a possible career. I did it willingly, out of love for Guatemala."

Our Constitution does not allow presidents to be reelected, therefore, I assumed this responsibility fully aware that I could not be reelected in the future, unless the Constitution was reformed.

The Constitution states that whoever "exercises the role of president for more than two years would be unable to become a presidential candidate."

The president said his "political sacrifice" by accepting his country's presidency was necessary and he understood it well because his participation was aimed at achieving national unity and rescue Guatemala from the constitutional, legal, and political abyss in which it had been left.

As for the swearing in ceremony of the new defense minister, De Leon Carpio said he did so "following constitutional prerogatives granted to the president," and that is why he made that decision.

"I did it keeping the events in mind and keeping in mind the consequences I would have to face following these events."

The Guatemalan Army, through the former defense minister, obeyed a judicial mandate from the highest court dealing with these matters, the Constitutional Court, by notifying former President Jorge Serrano Elias about the need to return to a constitutional order.

"In this regard I had the opportunity to be consistent with the historic times and bring about this change. My relation with the Army is just how it should be in Guatemala. I am the president of the Republic and commanding general of the Army by constitutional mandate."

On 11 June, I held a meeting with all commanders and directors of military zones. I told them that my relation with them would be the one of a statesman.

I told them I would be a president that would comply with the law and, if necessary, there would be changes made within the armed institution itself, therefore, they would have to contribute because we have common goals, we are all part of the state, which is one.

"This is how I am going to govern, otherwise I would not have been interested in assuming this post. I have to do it the way I always wanted, serving my country with honesty and complying with the law and demanding that the law be complied with without distinctions of any kind."

Commenting on sinecure jobs and expenses, he said in Guatemala "confidential expenses," for which no vouchers are required, are excessive and have contributed to increase corruption.

Therefore, I have decided not to use those funds and transfer them for social needs. "I am trying to be an example for others. I am not a wealthy person, therefore, it is not that I will not need them, but I will earn a salary as president, although I do not know how much."

De Leon Carpio said that for the first time in history, measures will be taken, such as demanding a probity

statement [declaracion de probidad], not only from the president, but from the vice president, ministers, and the entire cabinet.

De Leon Carpio stressed that ministers will have to "sacrifice" because some of them had other salaries in addition to their assigned salaries. "I am reviewing this, and if true, they will have to accept the assigned salaries, and no more."

Among other things, De Leon said he has always complied with the law, and that he is a man of law. Therefore, his actions have always been legal and the least he can do is make sure laws are enforced.

"If the law orders me to ensure compliance and this means demanding the extradition of former President Serrano, I must do it."

We have just granted a safe-conduct to the vice president, however, with the condition of his possible extradition. I must respect political asylum, which is a human right.

In both cases, however, as well as with other government officials, "I will respect the independence and exclusive jurisdiction of the Judicial Branch to judge and make sure sentences are executed."

Therefore, any legal action to be applied against anyone who supposedly committed a crime will be carried out regardless of who the former official may be, he warned.

On the subject of drug trafficking, De Leon Carpio deplored both the production and trafficking of drugs, which he described as "a monster who has just begun to show its face." He added the struggle should not only be carried out individually by each country, but as a common effort.

De Leon Carpio also criticized former President Serrano, whom he said used mechanisms such as arbitrariness, authoritarianism, and unconstitutional means to fight corruption, which is condemnable, particularly coming from a democrat and head of state.

He said Serrano acted hastily and desperately, adding that "I do not know why, because his actions were not correct, legal, or constitutional, and much less what is expected from a head of state in facing problems."

De Leon Carpio said during his meeting with military leaders he urged them to fully respect human rights, as "I am thoroughly convinced that it is the only way we can attain peace and subsequently economic and social development."

"There is no peace, development, or justice without respect for human rights. I will not change my position in defense of human rights, which I maintained as ombudsman, now that I am in a different chair."

Those principles, those feelings, and that conviction I have about promoting mutual respect among Guatemalans through absolute and total respect for human rights must be implemented in Guatemala. Otherwise, I would not have accepted the post.

De Leon Carpio committed himself to continue his struggle in defense of human rights, now with the advantage of being the president.

Finally, he said he will demand the same commitment from the members of his cabinet, and warned that he will strictly apply the law against anyone who violates those rights, regardless of who that person may be or the institution of that person.

Communications Minister Tenders Resignation

PA1206045493 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 11 Jun 93 p 3

[Text] It was officially announced last night that Communications, Public Works, and Transportation Minister Alvaro Heredia [Silva] had presented his irrevocable resignation before the president of the Republic on 10 June.

The former minister had occupied the position since the mandate of deposed President Jorge Serrano Elias began. Mr. Heredia had been a member of the PAN [National Vanguard Party], but resigned to become a full member of the MAS [Solidarity Action Movement].

Former Vice President En Route To Costa Rica

PA1206020393 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0130 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Former Guatemalan Vice President Gustavo Adolfo Espina Salguero is flying to San Jose, Costa Rica at this very moment.

Also in Panama are former Education Minister Maria Luisa Beltranena de Padilla, former Government Minister Francisco Perdomo Sandoval, and former President Jorge Serrano Elias. The former leaders of the country, those who were in power only 25 days ago, have now sought asylum. The Panamanian Government is reportedly willing to grant Perdomo Sandoval and Beltranena de Padilla political asylum.

Other followers of the overthrown president are reportedly in rooms on the sixth floor of the Marriott Hotel in Panama City. An entire floor of the Marriott Hotel, which is located on the beach, has been occupied by former officials of President Serrano Elias' government.

Court Issues Warrants For Espina, Magistrates

PA1106133593 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 10 Jun 93 p 8

[Text] On 9 June, the fourth lower court issued arrest warrants for former Vice President Gustavo Espina Salguero, Government Minister Rolando Perdomo, and

the de facto Supreme Court of Justice, CSJ, magistrates for violating the Constitution.

Attorney General of the Republic Edgar Tuna Valladares said the decision had been made by the court on the afternoon of 9 June, after determining that the mentioned people committed several crimes when they supported former President Jorge Serrano Elias' decision to assume absolute powers.

Espina Salguero and Perdomo Sandoval are charged with violating the Constitution, rebellion, creating unrest, contempt of state organization presidents, abuse of authority, abandonment of post, usurpation of functions, self-concealment, embezzlement, and misappropriation of funds.

The arrest warrants were issued after the court ruled that Espina Salguero and Perdomo Sandoval did not merit the privilege of a pretrial requested by the Legislative Branch.

Regarding the de facto CSJ magistrates, the court ruled they had usurped functions and, thus, ordered arrest warrants for them so they may answer for the crimes committed.

The decision was made because the Attorney General's Office requested the immediate arraignment and arrest of the nine lawyers and notaries who endorsed the constitutional rupture and illegally assumed the posts of CSJ magistrates.

They are Maria Luisa Beltranena de Padilla, Jose Maria Moscoso Duarte, Roberto Eduardo Rivera Alvarez, Sergio Tulio Aquino Barillas, Rodrigo Herrera Moya, Aura Astrid Morales de Morales, Juan Alfredo Barrios Martinez, Bernardo Alfredo Lopez Estrada, and Josefina Vargas Chacon de Machado.

According to the Attorney General's Office, the mentioned people committed the crimes of violation of the Constitution, contempt of state organization presidents, abuse of authority, usurpation of functions, self-concealment, and anticipated public functions [anticipacion de funciones publicas], when they were sworn in as CSJ magistrates based on Presidential Decree 2-93 dated 27 May.

Menchu Comments on Meeting With De Leon

PA1106144893 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish
2352 GMT 9 Jun 93

[Article by NOTIMEX Correspondent Jose Luis Castillejos]

[Text] Guatemala City, 9 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Nobel Peace Prize winner Rigoberta Menchu asked President Ramiro De Leon Carpio on 9 June "to sow peace and create a truly democratic state" to overcome the existing climate of violence, poverty, lack of health, and inequality.

Interviewed by NOTIMEX at the conclusion of a private meeting at the presidential palace, Menchu recalled giving Guatemala's new president "a vote of confidence" to change the future of this country, whose face "is bloody."

Wearing a hand-embroidered Guatemalan Indian outfit, Menchu walked, more freely than on other occasions, down the glistening halls of the presidential palace, where she called for the reconstruction of the Guatemala society "leaving behind intrigue and blackmail."

The Nobel Peace Prize winner, appointed goodwill ambassador to the United Nations, said the biggest challenge De Leon Carpio faces is achieving a political solution to the internal armed conflict and recovering the people's trust.

"Awareness has grown, the people have a stronger understanding of the conflict and, above all, a stronger awareness of the meaning of injustice, discrimination, oppression, and human rights," Menchu said.

Menchu added that she would be willing to put forth her best efforts to encourage the people, the unions, and Indian groups, "learn to live in a democratic country."

"More than a proposal from a specific sector, what we need is the help of all sectors to discuss topics of national interest," Menchu added.

According to the Nobel Peace Prize winner, Guatemala is a country that has been bled and that invests huge amounts of money in war, reasons why she proposed "that Indian communities be helped and a democratic state sowed."

Menchu added that De Leon Carpio told her that he plans to resume the peace talks with the guerrilla and begin touching on, with a more realistic focus, on the issues of civil patrols, militarization, and civilian society.

The Indian leader hinted at the possibility of mediating in the peace negotiations and said that "one of the situations that had kept me from participating was Jorge Serrano Elias' hard stance. He was bothered by the Nobel Prize and tried to block my every move."

She said "this is a time of high sensitivity and distrust" toward Guatemala, "especially because Serrano Elias never honored promises to the world to respect human rights."

At present, Menchu added, it is important to strengthen popular initiatives and understand that the current situation "is the result of great social pressure."

The Nobel laureate voiced confidence that special attention will be paid to the demands of low-income segments, civilian society, and groups that have teamed up.

"Civilian society demands participation in the peace process and a purge of state organizations involved in

corruption and drug trafficking," she said. Menchu traveled to Mexico on 9 June to meet with President Carlos Salinas de Gortari.

She recalled impunity has prevailed and the military has controlled the country's fate, and so "ruling at this time through violations, pressure, blackmail, and amid an unprecedented crisis will be very difficult" for De Leon Carpio.

Menchu pointed out that "humanity, which has been partly responsible for the war in Guatemala, a sore on the heart of man, should realize we want peace and social justice."

Economic Cabinet Meets De Leon To Offer Overview

PA1106211893 *Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 10 Jun 93 p 5*

[Text] The economic cabinet meet on 9 June with President Ramiro De Leon Carpio to give him an overview of the national economy.

Finance Minister Richard Aitkenhead Castillo, Economy Minister Gustavo Saravia, Agriculture Minister Adolfo Boppel Carrera, and Bank of Guatemala President Lizardo Sosa Lopez briefed the new president on the country's real economic situation and the impact of the self-inflicted coup.

The meeting between the president and these officials took place amid a cordial atmosphere. The officials said the effects of the coup on the country's financial system were moderate.

The officials told President De Leon that loans and cooperation programs from international organizations were nearly cut off but the situation is now back to normal.

Bank of Guatemala reserves are at a satisfactory level and, although the exchange rate suffered a devaluation in relation to the dollar in foreign markets, the banking system is now returning to normal levels.

A source who requested anonymity said that in the next few days President Ramiro De Leon will ask Aitkenhead Castillo to remain as finance minister. The source, however, refused to say the same for the other economic cabinet members.

The president is expected to confirm the economic cabinet members or announce their replacements this week.

EEC Conditions Increased Assistance on Peace Agreements

PA1206201993 *Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 11 Jun 93 p 83*

[Text] The EEC is willing to increase its economic assistance to Guatemala if a peace agreement is signed,

Vittorino Allocco, EEC ambassador for Central America, said at a news conference held during a business meeting between Guatemalan exporters and a delegation of European importers in this capital on 10 June.

The meeting was held with the purpose of implementing a practical plan to provide support for European importers and local exporters to reach business deals within the second stage of the regional program for the promotion of exports in Guatemala and Costa Rica.

According to Allocco, the EEC countries are pleased to see the restoration of the constitutional order and democracy in the country, which led them to reaffirm their commitment to continue financing important development projects.

The diplomat, whose office is located in Costa Rica, said the EEC is considering the possibility of substantially increasing its economic assistance to our country following the signature of firm and lasting peace agreements, for which government and guerrilla delegations have been working for the past two years.

As for the trade program, Allocco said the first stage is aimed at identifying potential export products in Guatemala, such as flowers, fruits, vegetables, and seafood.

In the third stage, which will last ten months, Guy Stinglhamber, the European codirector of the project, will remain in the country to provide follow-up assistance for the contracts that may be signed.

During the meeting held on 10 June, Allocco said the program will allow Guatemalans to learn more about the European market and take advantage of the huge opportunities it offers.

Allocco said the EEC represents a potential market of 342 million consumers, which is currently open to any product, except bananas.

The diplomat pointed out that the EEC is Central America's second most important customer and Guatemala enjoys tariff preferences within the region.

In addition, Allocco talked about the recent complaints of a special GATT panel regarding the illegal character of certain European measures to impose severe restrictions on Latin American bananas. Allocco said the measures were taken during the old EEC regimen, but the GATT has not yet made a statement regarding the new regimen.

According to Allocco, in the new EEC regimen, which will be in force on 1 July, regulations will be implemented so that bananas can freely circulate in the entire community.

Bank Says Country 'Unlikely' To Meet IMF Goals

PA1106142493 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 8 Jun 93 p 58

[Text] "It is unlikely Guatemala will meet the goals agreed upon with the IMF for the second quarter of 1993. The goals are to collect \$580 million in international monetary reserves and to reduce the Bank of Guatemala's (Banguat) net internal assets to 650 million quetzales."

The aforementioned is part of a Banguat document, dated 7 June, which attributes the impossibility of complying with the IMF commitments to the country's sociopolitical crisis during the past four weeks. The compliance of those commitments are a prerequisite to reopen the country's international credit possibilities.

According to the Banguat officials, it will be "more than impossible" to correct in only 15 days the unbalances suffered by the national economy during the past days, when former President Serrano Elias broke the constitutional order and his vice president Gustavo Espina tried to replace him.

"Instead of increasing the level of international monetary reserves, Banguat lost \$25 million due to an exaggerated increase in the demand for dollars during the institutional crisis," the Central Bank report indicates.

"In addition, 250 million quetzales did not circulate because there was a lack of investments in open market operations and fiscal collection decreased as taxpayers were mistrustful, precisely, because of the political instability in the past weeks."

Due to the situation, Banguat considers it is imperative to renegotiate the goals with the IMF and it is sure that efforts in this respect will find a favorable response as the government has sufficient arguments to justify the lack of compliance with the agreed upon goals.

"Characteristically, Guatemala does not comply with the agreements reached with the IMF in a timely manner. The difference is that we now have reasonable arguments," the document underlines.

Nicaragua

D. Ortega's Letter on U.S. Blockade of Cuba Published

PA1106150093 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 8 Jun 93 p 4

["Text" of letter from Daniel Ortega, Sandinist National Liberation Front, FSLN, secretary general, to Joao Baena Soares, OAS secretary general, in Managua on 4 June]

[Text] Managua, 4 June 1993

His Excellency Mr. Ambassador Joao Baena Soares,

OAS Secretary General

Dear Mr. Secretary General:

On occasion of the 23d General Assembly of the OAS taking place in Nicaragua, I consider it my duty to point out the following reflections regarding the U.S. blockade of the people of Cuba for the past 30 years.

The history of Cuban-U.S. relations during the past century shows a bleak balance for Cuba. One just has to recall the intentional destruction of the sea vessel Maine in the Port of Havana that was used as a pretext to intervene in Cuba at a time when Spanish colonialism had been defeated and that precipitated the so-called Spanish-Cuban-American war. This resulted in several years of U.S. interventionist government and the approval of the Platt Amendment, a result of which is the existence of the U.S. Naval Base of Guantanamo. Under the shadow of this amendment, the U.S. Governments, through military interventions, sponsored and supported dictators, such as Machado and Batista.

Since the revolutionary victory that deposed the tyranny, the U.S. Government, represented by eight administrations, has applied a wide ranging plan of aggression against Cuba with the purpose of making the country yield to its economic and political designs.

This policy of aggression has been evident in diverse forms ranging from direct military intervention to the threat of nuclear slaughter, the encouragement and execution of sabotage, the introduction of plagues and epidemics to undermine the whole population, plans to assassinate President Fidel Castro, million dollar slander campaign using radio and television, agents inside and outside of Cuba, and denying visas to Cuban science, culture, and artistic figures.

Brutal facts such as the destruction of the sea vessel La Coubre in the Port of Havana and the blowing up of a Cubana de Aviacion aircraft in mid-flight by terrorists who received refuge in U.S. territory must be highlighted. These two events caused more than 100 casualties and hundreds of injuries, including the entire Cuban fencing team.

The permanent action of this official U.S. terrorist policy against Cuba has been the economic, commercial, and financial blockade, which has caused significant material losses to Cuba and constitutes the flagrant overwhelming violation of the human rights of a whole country in an effort to humble a country through hunger.

To this we must add the recent attempt to turn Cuba into a U.S. protectorate with the so called Torricelli Bill, which boosted the measures to isolate Cuba by imposing penalties and threats against third countries, thus ensuring a total blockade on the island with the express objective of toppling the Cuban Government.

In addition to the U.S. blockade, Cuba suffers a double blockade as result of the loss of its trade with Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, countries that are

now under pressure from the United States to cut all economic relations with the Cuban Government.

Esteemed Mr. Secretary General:

I believe the OAS, despite promoting positive changes in Inter-American relations and trying to avoid outdated continental security doctrines, has not done justice to the Cuban people as this organizations' performance toward Cuba is still heavily influenced by the United States. The OAS must condemn the blockade as the main element violating the human rights of the Cuban people. It seems highly suspicious that on the one hand a hasty report on alleged human rights violations in Cuba has been gathered that will only serve to attempt to justify new sanctions. At the same time, sanctions barring Cuba from the OAS continue in effect. These sanctions must be lifted.

In opposition to the U.S. policy, the OAS should promote the lifting of sanctions without any conditions or interference of any kind, as well as to encourage the establishment of a new type of relation based on respect, self-determination, and noninterference of the United States in Cuba's internal affairs.

It is time for Latin America to sway U.S. policy to make this country respectful of international rights, in addition to the new relations the U.S. administrations will be forced to cultivate with the Latin American countries. It is impossible for us to allow our Cuban brothers, who have accomplished so much in fields such as health, education, and dignity, to be victims of their aggressors who trample the human rights of a whole country with impunity.

[Signed] Fraternally,

Daniel Ortega Saavedra

Foreign Minister Calls For Reforms to OAS Charter

PA1106224793 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0230 GMT 9 Jun 93

[Report on speech by Foreign Minister Ernesto Leal at the OAS General Assembly in Managua on 8 June—passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Text] In his speech before the fourth plenary session of the OAS General Assembly, Foreign Minister Ernesto Leal stressed that the OAS role cannot be limited to confronting crises and emergencies in the region.

[Leal] "More than a mechanism of prevention and anticipation, we have created a mechanism of reaction. The cases of Haiti, Peru, and recently Guatemala confirmed this fact. Nicaragua believes, Mr. President, it is time to have an OAS that will focus its work on the structural causes of conflicts. We need an OAS that will foresee conflicts and which will not only react to extraordinary situations."

Foreign Minister Leal urged the OAS to work on a program to strengthen and promote democratic institutions.

[Leal] "For Nicaragua, the OAS role is not only overseeing electoral processes; it should be expanded to strengthen and modernize democratic institutions when requested by member-states in order to give democracies stronger foundations."

Leal said development is the real face of democracy, and noted the need to draft an overall and preventive plan with basic objectives.

[Leal] "The first objective would be eradicating critical poverty. We cannot continue sustaining democracy with a face disfigured by the scars of poverty, hunger, illiteracy, or unemployment. Second, Mr. President, we must start a dialogue for an inter-American strategy for development."

In his speech, Leal stressed the importance of the OAS role, which contributed to a quick return to democracy in Guatemala.

[Leal] "Recent developments in Guatemalan show that regional integration process has not created superficial structures. Central America has gradually created a firmly established democratic culture, which cannot be easily toppled by coups d'etat. Central America, Mr. President, is very proud of this."

Leal reiterated the Nicaraguan Government's support for reforms to the OAS Charter to eradicate critical poverty, as well as Nicaragua's support to the activities of the Inter-American Commission for the Control of Drug Abuse, and projects for environmental protection.

Afterward, the plenum of the Assembly discussed the draft of the Managua Declaration for the Promotion of Democracy and Development. The draft document of the Managua Declaration, which was approved by the plenum, stressed that economic and social development and the struggle against drug trafficking and environmental protection will be OAS priorities to preserve democracies on the continent. In the Managua Declaration, which has 20 points, the 34 OAS member countries said that democratic development requires programs that will satisfy the basic needs of the peoples in the hemisphere.

UNO Leader Comments on OAS Influence

PA1106190693 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1030 GMT 8 Jun 93

[Text] The National Opposition Union [UNO] delivered to the foreign ministers participating in the 23d OAS General Assembly a document in which they analyze the political, economic, and social situation of Nicaragua. In the document they state that there will not be a national dialogue if the government and the UNO do not reach agreements.

The UNO document also reports all the precedents and efforts undertaken by the UNO to find a peaceful situation to the conflict in Nicaragua.

Wilfredo Navarro, one of the UNO leaders and president of the Independent Liberal Party, speaks about this document and also clearly states that the role of the OAS over the last few years has not been productive and accuses Joao Baena Soares, current OAS secretary general, of being one of the sponsors of the current Nicaraguan cogovernment.

These are the statements made by Navarro:

[Begin recording] [Navarro] We believe that the meeting of foreign ministers in Nicaragua is an appropriate forum for us to report on Nicaragua's situation to Latin America.

In light of the fact that the Chamorro government handles the resources necessary to project an image different to what is happening in Nicaragua, the visit of the Latin American foreign ministers in our country will allow us to explain our position as opposition to the Chamorro government.

Therefore, the objectives of UNO at this foreign ministers meeting are the following: First, as I said, explain the country's situation, the institutional and political crisis that has arisen after the alteration of the constitutional order at the National Assembly; explain the reasons for the crisis to the foreign ministers and that the analysis of the cases that will be discussed at the meeting, such as the Haitian and Guatemalan cases, should also include the Nicaraguan case as there was also a coup d'etat against Nicaragua's institutions.

For that objective we have prepared an illustration that was approved on 7 June at the Assembly of UNO National Leaders held at the Cabrera Theater, in which we explain to the foreign ministers our points of view, what we believe to be the core of the Nicaraguan crisis, the breakage of the institutional order, and the fact that the Chamorro government is repeatedly violating the law and the right of state as in the case of their decreeing a state of siege in a part of the national territory without a decree or resolution from the National Assembly. Furthermore, the most important thing in this document is that we state the need for the OAS to discuss the Nicaraguan case to try to find a peaceful solution and avoid the war. Furthermore, we are attaching to this letter a dossier of documents stating the UNO position during these two years.

In addition, we will undertake a number of activities and meetings with the ambassadors from the Latin American countries, we will try to meet with the largest possible number of foreign ministers, and we will attend a luncheon thrown by the Managua Mayorality for the Latin American foreign ministers on 9 June at which each one of the UNO political leaders will try to convey, as much as possible, to the foreign ministers the UNO positions and the country's situation in light of the integral crisis

caused by the disruption of the institutional and constitutional order that started with the [words indistinct] against the National Assembly in January 1992.

[Unidentified reporter] Some political leaders accuse or rather hold the OAS responsible for the situation in Guatemala, where former President Serrano Elias staged a self-inflicted coup, which was followed by a military coup against him. These leaders claim that the OAS did not take adequate specific actions when Fujimori staged a self-inflicted military coup in Peru. What is your opinion?

[Navarro] OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares has not shown real determination to stop abuses in Latin America and has not adopted adequate measures. In reality, due to its own regulations and mechanisms the OAS cannot take strong or belligerent actions in dealing with the crises taking place in Latin America.

Unfortunately, Latin America is experiencing a return to military regimes, disguised military regimes in which soldiers do not come forward directly but use a civilian who generally defines himself as not having any political affiliation. An example of this is Fujimori in Peru, where a man who had never previously participated in politics was supported by the Armed Forces, assumed power, and broke the democratic order. In the case of Guatemala, Serrano Elias, a man who did not have much political presence but had the support of the military forces staged a coup d'etat. In Nicaragua, Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo, who has not defined himself as a politician but has the support of the Armed Forces and the police, broke the institutional order. In none of those three cases was the OAS capable of controlling the situation. We believe these could be bad examples that could foster the development of military and totalitarian dictatorships in Latin America.

There is an important point I must mention. The OAS is trying to reform its Charter to give the organization more power to resolve problems in the hemisphere. The case of Haiti, for example, will really test the OAS coercive strength and its capacity to resolve Latin American problems. We believe Latin American countries should participate more actively in resolving conflicts in the area, particularly when the constitutional order is broken, as those coup d'etats represent setbacks in the long struggle to build democracies throughout Latin America.

[Reporter] Aside from the UNO position expressed to the OAS foreign ministers, and aside from the attitude that the OAS has adopted regarding the conflicts in Peru, Guatemala, and Nicaragua, what does the UNO expect from the OAS General Assembly?

[Navarro] I do not expect many positive results. The fact the OAS General Assembly is taking place in Nicaragua minimizes the possibility of the organization reviewing the case of Nicaragua and finding an acceptable solution for the Nicaraguan people. Baena Soares is a personal friend of the Sandinists and of President Chamorro,

therefore, I do not believe he will permit a discussion of the Nicaraguan case. He will try to stop any initiative in that sense.

A positive aspect will be that Nicaraguan political leaders will have an opportunity to portray the Nicaraguan case, therefore, Latin American foreign ministers and the international community will have a better picture of the situation. In that regard, peoples in Latin American and the world will realize that Nicaragua is also facing a coup d'etat, a violent crisis that could lead to a war due to the inability of President Chamorro's government to find solutions to the problems through dialogue.

In addition, we will be able to gauge the ability of the OAS to deal with crises in several Latin American countries, specifically in Haiti, Peru, Nicaragua, and—based on recent reports—in Guatemala, where the crisis continues and where a national agreement has not been reached in which the president will have support from both the military forces and the country's active sectors.

[Reporter] Nicaraguan political circles contend that Baena Soares, Carlos Andres Perez, and former U.S. President James Carter are responsible for the co-government between the Sandinists, Lacayo, and President Chamorro. As a politician who participated in the past elections and is still actively participating, what do you have to say?

[Navarro] Baena Soares is particularly responsible for the cogovernment. He promoted it through the electoral process. This is because he had a commitment to the Sandinists. Baena Soares obtained support from the Sandinists for his reelection as OAS secretary general, and not only that, he negotiated Nicaragua's promotion of his candidacy. Baena Soares has commitments to the Sandinists, therefore, he has obstructed the democratization process in Nicaragua. He directly intervened to prevent the separation of Humberto Ortega from the Army, as well as Carlos Andres Perez and other Latin American political leaders who were really convinced that the Sandinists would succeed in Nicaragua. We understand this, and believe that leaders such as Baena Soares, Carlos Andres Perez, and other Latin American leaders who at one time or another supported the Sandinists still have time to rectify the situation. They should realize that the Sandinist program is not viable, and that it is necessary to adopt a democratic position that will help the Nicaraguan people attain the peace they need so badly and enter the democratic, as the rest of Latin American countries. [end recording]

Government Protests Colombia Intercepting Fishing Boats

PA1206045193 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish
2200 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] On 11 June, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry presented a strong protest to the Colombian Government for the interception of two Nicaraguan fishing

boats in national waters. The Nicaraguan vessels were intercepted by Colombian Air Force helicopters.

EPS Chief Receives Mine Equipment From IADB

PA1106220593 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish
1830 GMT 9 Jun 93

[Text] Major General Jose Cuadra Lacayo, Sandinist Peoples Army (EPS) chief of general staff, announced on 9 June that the Leftist Punitive Forces must benefit from the amnesty that the government will decree for all the unconventional groups that decide to return to civilian life. Representing the Armed Forces, Cuadra received from the OAS' Inter-American Defense Board (IADB) \$1.5 million in equipment to clear mine fields.

The equipment, consisting of mine detectors, helmets, protective clothing, and tools, among other things, will be used for the removal of mines for one full year, Cuadra said. The plan for removal of approximately 120,000 explosive devices will be executed by five platoons, each formed by 115 members of the EPS and also IADB officers and noncommissioned officers from Guatemala, Honduras, Argentina, Chile, Peru, and Colombia.

The mine-removal equipment was presented by Maj. Gen. Cuadra by OAS Secretary General Joao Clemente Baena Soares and IADB President Major General Richard Harding. Cuadra Lacayo also discussed the demobilization of unconventional groups for which, he said, there is no deadline. The process will conclude when all of the groups have voluntarily entered the enclaves.

'380 Northern Front' Recontras Vow To Continue Actions

PA1106211993 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish
1830 GMT 9 Jun 93

[Report by Gustavo Bindell Acuna from Esteli]

[Text] Recontras of the so-called 380 Northern Front have said they will not disarm.

More than 200 recontras of the 380 Northern Front have announced that they will continue their acts of vandalism against the administration of Mrs. Chamorro, following a meeting of recontra leaders in the northern area of Nueva Segovia.

A reliable source told "Radio News" that on the afternoon of 7 June, recontra leaders Chacal, Bigote Pinol, Vengador, and Danto Negro met in the area known as (Planes de Juanito), north of Murra Municipality. At that meeting, the main leaders of the so-called 380 Northern Front agreed to continue actions on the road from [word indistinct] to Quilali, as well as the takeover of northern towns.

These four recontra leaders have 200 men under their command. They were recently supplied with food,

weapons, and war materiel by a small airplane that entered national territory from Honduras.

Bizarre Shoot-Out Between Riot Police and Veterans

*PA1406032193 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish
12 Jun 93 p 1, 12*

[Text] Troops from the Third Riot Police Department and 150 former soldiers staged a bloody battle, near the Migration Directorate building in Managua. After the clash, 30 people were arrested and 11 policemen were wounded. All of the windows on patrol car 3-080 were smashed.

The confrontation began at 1000 [1600 GMT] when the police patrol car intercepted the veterans along Resistance Street to stop them from continuing with an unauthorized demonstration, which the veterans intended to end at the Presidential Palace. The organizers had invited 500 banana plantation workers, who were demonstrating outside the Nicaraguan Central Bank, to join them.

A policeman took one of the demonstrators by the arm and the struggle began. Knives appeared and shots were fired. One shot wounded Sub Commander Ernesto Zamora, the patrol's commanding officer, in the hand.

The clash became terrifying when the police responded to the homemade explosives and shots—thought to be fired from small arms or handguns—with an incredible amount of rubber bullets and tear gas.

Suddenly, four policemen fell to the ground after an explosion was heard. Several policemen stated that someone hurled an RG-5 fragmentation grenade. Other reports say the men were hit by shrapnel from a homemade mortar. A truck belonging to the banana workers, which was not involved in the incident, was hit by shrapnel and scores of bullets.

When riot police reinforcements arrived, under the command of Sub Commander Hamin Guardian, the veterans dispersed. According to residents of Enrique Schmidt neighborhood, located in front of the Central Bank, the police then "proceeded to raid a considerable number of houses."

A woman, who was visibly affected by the gas, commented that "the police were not careful. It is fine for them to keep the order, but not at our expense, as we had nothing to do with the incident. They were all over the place. That is abuse."

Later on, children were out bouncing the hard balls that the police shot at the demonstrators. According to statements by the commander of the riot police, "we only used them against those who were shooting mortars."

Policeman Alejandro Areas Quiroz was in serious condition after sustaining a bullet wound in the chest. Javier Arauz, his partner, had shrapnel in his leg. A third policeman had a piece of shrapnel lodged near his brain. Unconfirmed reports indicated that one policeman was hit by rifle fire and the others by shrapnel.

The other policemen reported as wounded are Carlos Mora, Julio Blen, Daniel Moraga, Luis Carvajal, Pedro Mendoza, Danilo Urbina, Leonel Gonzalez.

Argentina**U.S. 'Pressures' on Patents Law Criticized**

PY1106150093 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS
ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2313 GMT 10 Jun 93

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Jun (NA)—Leaders of national medicine manufacturing laboratories today asked President Carlos Menem "to exercise the right to voice their opinion" on the content of the future medicines patents law, and denounced U.S. "pressures" for quick approval of that law.

After a meeting with the president of the Republic, Pablo Challu, executive director of the Argentine Industrial Center of Pharmaceutical Laboratories (CILFA), said that "these pressures are real and evident, and the U.S. Government does not even try to disguise them."

All CILFA members, including President Anibal Caprile, participated in the meeting with the president.

Challu explained that the U.S. "pressures" issue "was not treated" during the meeting with Menem, who "did not give his opinion but limited himself to (only) listening to us."

Challu added: "What we did was explain our position on the matter to the president."

He added that "there is great confusion on this matter because it is said that national laboratories do not want any patenting and are against intellectual property rights."

"That is absolutely false," he said.

Challu added that national laboratories "fully respect the rights of intellectual property," and said they "are not opposed to changing the law but they simply want to exercise the right to voice their opinion on the content" of the law.

He added that they also expressed to President Menem their desire to achieve a law "that will guarantee economic freedom" for all laboratories.

"We are not rejecting the rights of all innovative companies; we want to pay them for those rights but don't want a monopoly granted to them," he said.

Camilion: Decision To Dismantle Condor-2 'Definite'

PY1206165193 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0205 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Jun (TELAM)—The government decision to dismantle the Condor-2 missile "is definite," according to a statement today by Defense Minister Oscar Camilion, who reiterated that the vector, regarded as a "potentially massive destruction weapon, has already been dismantled."

Camilion, who last week visited the Falda del Carmen plant—where the missile was built—asserted that the project "was dismantled and will not be recycled in that direction" and announced the possibility that this plant will be open to the public because "it no longer has a strategic purpose."

Although he did not say what the Falda del Carmen plant could be used for, the minister said that "a great effort" will be made to determine how the building will be used, noting that "technical advice was necessary for this."

Regarding the alleged visits by politicians and government officials to Magdalena prison, Camilion said "it is a closed matter. The visits were denied by the persons involved and it was proven, by looking at the visitor's book, who had entered and who not."

Changing the subject, Camilion admitted the Armed Forces' "concern" over the salary policy, although he noted that the subject not only worries military personnel but also a "large number of citizens who would also like to have a better salary."

In this sense he said that the Armed Forces' budget was the "predominant subject" discussed during the past few weeks in meetings he held with the military leadership.

Moreover, he denied rumors on the secret construction of a submarine at Hipasam [not further identified] premises in Rio Negro and noted that these charges are not "serious" because this company "does not build submarines."

Camilio said: "It must be a chocolate submarine, because that is all it can be. It is very difficult to build submarines."

Camilion Terms Navy, Air Force Replacements 'Normal'

PY1106210093 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS
ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1410 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Jun (NA)—Defense Minister Oscar Camilion today described as normal the replacements of the Navy chief of staff, Admiral Jorge Ferrer, and of the Air Force Chief of Staff, Brigadier General Jose Julia, because "on 9 July they will be completing four years as heads of their respective forces."

Camilion stated that these replacements, including the names of the new chiefs of staff, were announced one month in advance. He noted that in Argentina this type of replacement "is no longer a traumatic action concocted overnight."

Camilion also clarified President Menem's remark yesterday that Ferrer and Julia will continue in office. Camilion said Menem meant that the two officers will continue in office until 9 July.

In remarks to a radio station, Camilion said that Julia's replacement "is in no way related to the Condor-2 project," the controversial missile project that Argentina vowed to dismantle.

Camilion went on to say that "replacements in the military leadership are essential" because "military institutions are based on the promotion of new generations." He added that "after four years as head of an institution, the representative of one generation must give way to that of another generation."

The minister noted that the replacements and appointments of new chiefs of staff for the Navy and the Air Force have been implemented in accordance with a previously established "schedule."

Camilion denied that Colonel Mohamed Ali Seineldin and the other Painted Faces who are serving time at the Magdalena prison might have "an office with computers" there. He noted, however, that they "might have a computer," which he compared to having "a typewriter."

He also minimized the significance of a list of visitors who went to see the Painted Face officers at the prison. He said these visits "are not related to the charges made."

Camilion said he was not informed of a barbecue held at the Magdalena prison on 25 May with the attendance of former President Arturo Frondizi.

Colombia

Authorities Transfer Medellin Cartel Member

PA1406032593 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravisión
Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0130 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Attention, attention: John Jairo Vasquez Velasquez—alias Popeye—one of the most important Medellin cartel members, was transferred from the prison in Itagui to Modelo Prison, in Santa Fe de Bogota, on 13 June apparently due to security reasons. Popeye was suddenly transferred following a search carried out early on 13 June at Itagui prison. There is no official report on the man's transfer to the high-security ward at Modelo Prison. Certain authorities said that he was transferred for his own protection due to threats issued by Roberto Escobar and his brother, Pablo, who apparently feel betrayed after a recent incident at the Itagui prison. Roberto apparently slapped Popeye's face, trying to impose his authority. Popeye and Ottoniel Gonzalez Franco—alias Otto—another Itagui prison inmate, are now in Santa Fe de Bogota. Some people believe that they might cooperate with the authorities. Otto's family has been taken out of Medellin. Another version of Popeye's transfer was given tonight in a communique signed by his fellow inmates at Itagui prison. It says that Popeye was brought to the capital because a useless beeper was found in his possession during a search carried out on the morning of 13 June. John Jairo

Vasquez Velasquez will remain in the Modelo Prison's high-security ward and will continue to be under the authority of the Prosecutor General's Office.

Attorney General Says Security Forces Violate Rights

PA1106220193 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravisión
Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Jun 93

[Report by J.J. Pinilla]

[Text] In a report presented to President Cesar Gaviria on human rights violations in the country over the past two years, Attorney General Carlos Gustavo Arrieta said that the Police, Army, Administrative Department of Security, and technical corps of the Judicial Police and Investigations Directorate commit the most human rights violations. The Attorney General's report stated that the National Police force faces the most charges of human rights violations with 2,600 complaints in the last two years. Paradoxically, the Attorney General's Office indicated that the National Police force itself is the biggest victim of human rights violations.

As for the Army, the Attorney General's Office said the most frequent violations are massacres and kidnappings.

The report states that the greatest number of human rights violations take place in Antioquia, Santander, Norte de Santander, and Valle del Cauca Departments.

The Indians' land problems have made them easy targets for human rights violations as well.

The Attorney General's Office noted that subversive groups also violate human rights but admitted that currently there is no way to fight them.

Eleven Soldiers Die in Helicopter Crash, Clash

PA1206141293 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravisión
Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Report by Raul Gutierrez]

[Text] It was a tragic day for the Colombian Armed Forces. In Antioquia, 11 members of the Armed Forces died and seven others were injured as a result of an air crash and as a result of a clash.

A helicopter crashed in Turbo Municipality during a patrol mission. Its nine occupants died. This included Walter Fratini Loacio, commander of the counter guerrilla unit in the region; three Air Force officers; two police officers; and three soldiers.

The helicopter crashed in a jungle region and was completely destroyed. Neither the Army Command nor the Defense Ministry have confirmed the possibility that the helicopter was downed by the guerrillas, but they have not denied this possibility either.

In the same region, a lieutenant and a soldier died and seven others were injured during a clash with a Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia squad.

DAS Director Concerned About Recent Escapes

*PA1106215493 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravisión
Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Jun 93*

[Report by Diego Alonso Sanchez]

[Text] Oscar Freddy Paredes, director of the Administrative Department of Security [DAS] in Antioquia Department, said he was concerned about a possible reactivation of the military wing of the Medellin Cartel.

[Begin Paredes recording] In less than a week two persons have escaped who are linked to groups of hired assassins that normally work for the Medellin Cartel, such as the Ramada band operating in Bello Municipality.

Some believe attempts are being made to recruit people who are experienced in terrorist acts such as those committed by the henchmen. They may be trying to recover areas that used to be under the henchmen's control, such as Bello Municipality and the Castilla and Aranjuez areas. They may be looking for people to be hired assassins. We are trying to establish the real purpose behind these escapes. [end recording]

Official sources also said the DAS is trying to identify five high-ranking officers in the new Medellin Cartel organization that are currently known only by their aliases.

State Council Reprimand Finance, Health Ministers

*PA1106212093 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravisión
Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Jun 93*

[Report by Javier Dario Restrepo]

[Text] The State Council on 8 June proclaimed that its decisions will have to be followed by all citizens and high-ranking government officials. In other words, if Finance Minister Hommes stated that the ship only has one captain, on 8 June he must accept that when the State Council speaks, the minister must remain silent.

For the first time in history, three high-ranking officials could be sanctioned by the State Council. A reprimand was issued against the ministers of finance and health, and the director of national planning because of the statements they made at a news conference.

[Begin Guillermo Chahin, State Council president, recording] The State Council plenum has just determined that it will begin a correctional investigation on the conduct of the ministers of finance and public health, and the director of national planning. [end recording]

In a lengthy five-hour session, the State Council plenum studied the statements made by the aforesaid officials on the ruling repealing Decree 777 on government subsidies.

The ministers had argued that due to juridical technical aspects, the State Council had caused a situation of social emergency.

[Begin Guillermo Chahin recording] Obviously, we cannot argue about political, economic, or social considerations. We must apply the Constitution and the law. [end recording]

Magistrate Dolly Pedraza will be responsible for conducting the investigation. The officials will make their depositions to her. If the statements are not satisfactory, sanctions could range from a fine of 50,000 pesos to a 10-day incarceration.

Ecuador

'Red Sun in Quechua' Suspected in Institute Bombing

*PA1406045793 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0406 GMT
14 Jun 93*

[Text] Quito, 13 Jun (EFE)—A bomb exploded at Ecuadoran Institute of Agrarian Reform and Settlement (IERAC) offices in downtown Quito on the night of 13 June. There were no injuries. An EFE correspondent who visited the area shortly after the explosion reports that the blast shattered the building's windows and doors and was heard in many parts of the city but did not damage the IERAC building itself. Police sources said that no one knows who the perpetrators could have been. However, it is suspected that it could have been the Maoist terrorist group, Inti Puka (Red Sun in Quechua), which has claimed responsibility for more than 10 similar attacks in the past few months, all of them against government offices. All of the attacks have occurred at night and without resulting in any deaths or injuries.

Spokesman Denies Reports of Health Minister's Resignation

*PA1206010593 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2300
GMT 11 Jun 93*

[Text] Jose Vicente Maldonado, spokesman for the Conservative government, has denied that Public Health Minister Leonardo Viteri Molinari has resigned or that he has presented his resignation to the president.

The spokesman dismissed the resignation reports as the health minister is currently working on the generic medicine program and Fasbase, Strengthening and Broadening Basic Health Services.

[Begin recording] [Maldonado] Minister Leonardo Viteri has not presented his resignation to the president. As to your second question, I can tell you that the

president has not yet accepted the resignation of [Industry, Commerce, Integration, and Fisheries] Minister Pinto.

[Unidentified reporter] But Minister Viteri admitted that he has already presented his resignation.

[Maldonado] The president has not officially received that resignation, and in any event has not made a decision about what he considers essential for his government's success; meaning the stability of his cabinet.

[Reporter] But [words indistinct] irrevocable resignation [words indistinct].

[Maldonado] Minister Pinto's resignation does indeed have a personal connotation.

I have not spoken to the health minister. I can tell you, however, that the Public Health Ministry has undertaken very important programs and projects, and the president is pleased with them. Therefore, the president and the cabinet believe it is important that Minister Viteri and his team at the Public Health Ministry fulfill the programs that have already been started. [end recording]

Bank President Announces Loans To Encourage Production

PA1206041293 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2300 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] Ruben Mantilla Zambrano, general manager of the National Development Bank, has announced that as of 1 July there will be a significant increase in the number of loans approved by the managers of the bank's 89 branches to stimulate national production.

Montilla made the announcement at the conclusion of a working visit to the areas served by the San Gabriel and Turcan branches, where he spoke with local Development Bank officials and representatives of the production sectors in these border regions.

Mantilla said there are enough economic resources to finance the production activities of Carchi Province. He said the bank is acquiring resources by selling unproductive assets, vehicles, and shares from several enterprises. It also receives revenue from its 20-percent stock in the Gran Colombiana Merchant Fleet.

Paraguay

Rodriguez Terms Reports of Military Party 'Irresponsible'

PY1106184393 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 11 Jun 93 p 8

[All quotations marks as published]

[Text] President Andres Rodriguez yesterday called "irresponsible and whimsical" the remarks made by

Institutionalist Military Movement (MIM) members who said that a political-military party is about to be created.

The president of the Republic released a communique, the text of which reads as follows: "In light of the irresponsible and whimsical reports on the presumed intention to create a political-military party," the president of the Republic and Armed Forces commander in chief categorically denies such a lie that only seeks to discredit the military institution, which is firmly committed to the full implementation of constitutional order."

It adds: "Only those who refuse to recognize the honorable mission fulfilled by the Armed Forces in the successful development of our democratic transition can conceive such an idea, with the vain intention of tarnishing the institution's clean record."

MIM directors, among them Cavalry Captain Federico Camilo Figueredo (retired) and Infantry Captain Juan Bartolome Araujo (retired), on 8 June reported the existence of a plan to create the political-military party. President Rodriguez himself immediately decided to discredit them, saying Figueredo was a "coward" and Araujo "a communist."

Later, Army Commander Division General Pedro Concepcion de la Cruz Ocampos reported that there is no reason to create such a party, although he confirmed that Division General Lino Cesar Oviedo was heading a "large" project consisting of the construction of an entertainment complex for military and police personnel, either active duty or retired. He said such a project is being built in Vinas Cue, as reported by MIM members.

Moreover, it was learned that both Figueredo and Araujo were discharged from the national Army for "desertion" and "rebellion," respectively. The respective national decrees carry the numbers 23411 of 20 November 1947 and 18444 of 10 March 1947.

President-Elect Says Oviedo To Retire in 5 Years

PY1106222493 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 11 Jun 93 p 4

[Article by special correspondent Hilarion Acosta]

[Text] Formosa, Argentina—Paraguayan President-elect Juan Carlos Wasmosy has said here that 1st Corps Commander Lino Cesar Oviedo will continue to be on active duty for five more years, after which he will retire. Wasmosy, who was welcomed in Formosa with military honors, last night attended the opening ceremony of the fourth Rural Economy Seminar, sponsored by the Formosa Rural Association under the slogan of "New alternatives for production."

Wasmosy made this statement during an impromptu news conference held at the El Pucu International Airport minutes after his arrival. This trip is Wasmosy's first official visit after his election.

The president-elect also confirmed that General Andres Rodriguez will leave politics and military activity after his constitutional term expires on 15 August.

Wasmosy stated categorically that "Paraguay has an open democracy that is not subordinated to the military." He added: "Unlike political sectors, which have lacked the psychological capacity to adapt themselves to change, it is the Armed Forces that have best adapted to the changes implemented by Gen. Rodriguez."

Wasmosy also said that his cabinet will be made up exclusively of Colorado Party members, while opposition party members will be appointed to the second echelon and will also participate in Congress.

Asked by Formosa journalists about the Pilcomayo River issue and whether it might not be better to suspend the activities of the special commission until the new administration takes power, Wasmosy rejected this idea. He added that he cannot make decisions that are within the exclusive domain of the government in power.

Wasmosy nevertheless said that he is in permanent contact with President Rodriguez, adding that "there is political willingness to resolve the problem." The president-elect said: "The Pilcomayo River is a challenge that is defying the imagination of Argentines and Paraguayans alike. I believe that together we can develop and help find an irrigation source for the lands that need water."

As for bilateral ties, Wasmosy said his administration will increase the amount of crude oil purchased from Palmar Largo. He said that currently this cannot be done because the Paraguayan oil refinery lacks the necessary equipment to produce more by-products, adding that there are plans to increase oil purchases from Latin American countries instead of purchasing the oil from Algeria and other countries.

Wasmosy also met with residents from the Paraguayan town of Alberdi, with whom he discussed their concerns. They wanted to know what measures his administration will adopt to overcome the town's isolation and avoid river floods.

In this regard Wasmosy said that he has discussed a project with the EC to build a dam to the north of the Paraguay River, to regulate the flow of water and thus safeguard the ecology of the Pantanal region in Brazil, keeping the floods under control. He said this will also allow for the exploitation of the Chaco and Mato Grosso regions.

Wasmosy went to Formosa in the company of Raul Carignano, Argentine ambassador to Paraguay, and was

welcomed, with the military honors due a chief of state, by Formosa Governor Vicente Joga and Deputy Governor Gildo Insfran.

On the occasion, Wasmosy expressed his intention to enforce in Paraguay some of the aspects of Argentina's economic policies.

Venezuela

Labor Minister Submits Resignation to President

PA1206034793 Caracas Venezolana de Television
Network in Spanish 0039 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Labor Minister Ruben Rodriguez has presented his resignation to President Ramon J. Velasquez and concurrently proposed a 200-day plan to achieve peace within the work sector during the remainder of the constitutional term. Rodriguez explained that his plan is the result of two years of work by a team of Labor Ministry experts. The plan states that it is necessary to establish a system whereby the prices of staple goods will be stabilized:

[Begin Rodriguez recording] The plan implies a series of commitments and concessions by the business sector, which without returning to price controls, would stabilize the prices of a number of basic products chosen through a mutual agreement between the government, business sector, and workers. The business sector would pledge to get itself up to date in its payments to the Venezuelan Social Security Institute without any conditions whatsoever. The plan would also implement, as far as possible, certain types of nonsalary compensations, such as the provision of day care centers, the implementation through a law of the industrial cafeteria system—either by establishing dining rooms or through the ticket restaurant or ticket basket system—which would increase workers' purchasing power. [end recording]

Rodriguez believes that he did a positive job because, in his opinion, he managed to satisfactorily resolve all of the conflicts brought before him.

Former Finance Minister Rosas Reviews Work

PA1106163693 Caracas Venezolana de Television
Network in Spanish 1550 GMT 8 Jun 93

[Interview with former Finance Minister Pedro Rosas Bravo by Cecilia Pachano at Miraflores Palace in Caracas—live]

[Text] [Pachano] We are at Miraflores Palace with former Finance Minister Pedro Rosas Bravo, who will leave his post on 9 June. You are about to turn over a post you have held all these years. What can you tell us? What is the current balance?

[Rosas] I believe we must reassert the advisability of facing the challenges we have in the fiscal sector. We must face our difficult fiscal situation, increase non-oil

revenues, and further reduce public expenses. I leave the new finance minister a proposal for a 35 billion bolivares reduction in public expenses. I also leave the necessary infrastructure to implement the new taxes. In addition, I issue an appeal concerning our external finance sources. We must fulfill our pledges with international credit agencies. We can only encourage the arrival of capital in the extent we honor our financial commitments.

[Pachano] Do you believe the series of economic measures implemented during the period you were a cabinet member can be modified? Will a change of course occur?

[Rosas] I believe we have achieved progress concerning the necessary structural reforms, which were necessary for the people's welfare. Moreover, Venezuela is part of the international economic community and a signatory of economic integration accords. In my opinion, it would be difficult and costly, from the social point of view, to revert some of the measures we have implemented concerning our foreign exchange and commercial reforms. I believe it is a matter of complementing the work that is still pending so we will improve the Venezuelan economy.

[Pachano] What can you say about the fact that you failed to convince Congress to approve fiscal laws, yet there is now a Special Powers Law proposal for their immediate approval?

[Rosas] I think the Special Powers Law can be an appropriate option to give the Venezuelan economy and the state the necessary instruments to face the difficult fiscal situation. I think the tax issue has been discussed at length and we are now able to approve all these instruments through a Special Powers Law. The important thing is to settle the issue without further delay. I think all the estimates have been made, we know the scope of the problems, and it is a matter of solving the problems with the solutions that Congress considers it wise to approve.

[Pachano] Does this mean you believe you will turn over a stronger Finance Ministry with everything in order?

[Rosas] We have done our job, we have put the Ministry on a sound basis; we have significantly increased non-oil revenues, which everyone recognizes; we now have a better fiscal position; and all taxpayers are aware of the efforts we have exerted and the fact we have put the country's customs on a sound basis. This is a mid-term process and some issues are obviously pending. There is a job to be done and I expect the next administration will consolidate the work we have carried out concerning non-oil revenues. Thank you.

[Pachano] Thank you. This has been Minister Pedro Rosas Bravo, who will turn over the post on 9 June to Dr. Carlos Rafael Silva, a former president of the Central Bank of Venezuela.

Coup Leader Chavez Views Crisis in Interview

PA1306235793 Paris AFP in Spanish 1850 GMT
13 Jun 93

[Text] Caracas, 13 Jun (AFP)—Commander Hugo Chavez, leader of the February 1992 coup attempt, has asked for the establishment of a civilian-military transition government and for the convening of a constituent assembly as the first measures to resolve Venezuela's political and economic crisis.

In a television interview granted to journalist Jose Vicente Rangel, Chavez also called for the reorientation of "the brutal economic program that has brought poverty to the majority of the people." The broadcast of the interview has been prohibited by the Caracas Military Court.

Chavez also asked that "justice continue its course and that corrupt individuals be sent to jail," and that amnesty be granted "to all political prisoners." He also requested that the members of the military imprisoned because of the February and November 1992 coup attempts be reinstated in the Armed Forces.

Chavez' interview—which took place 15 days ago and should have been aired by the private Televen station on 13 June—was shown by Rangel to a group of journalists.

Referring to the interim government that had to be appointed after the May suspension of Social Democratic President Carlos Andres Perez, who is accused of embezzlement and misappropriation of funds, Chavez said that the interim government must not be "the result of a consensus by the political elite."

"A real solution must be found by new actors. We must invoke popular sovereignty to prevent those leadership cliques from reorganizing their control," Chavez affirmed. He stressed that the civilian-military government he promotes should distance themselves from the elite of the political parties and the Armed Forces.

"The agreements among the political cliques have never produced anything good for the country because they have always acted to benefit the minority," Chavez insisted. He also issued a call to legislators to "break their commitments with the party elites and exercise national sovereignty. If they are not capable of doing so, new conflicts of various types will arise," he warned.

"The defense minister said that the members of the military must remain outside of the political debate, but it is not a simple political debate, rather it is the destiny of the nation that is at stake," he indicated. "The Armed Forces' duty is to maintain democratic stability and guarantee the Constitution and the enforcement of laws. If Congress continues to seize the people's sovereignty and give it to elite groups, the Armed Forces cannot permit it," he added.

After Perez' suspension, Social Democrat Octavio Lepage, president of the Congress, was placed in charge of the presidency for two weeks and was later replaced by Ramon J. Velasquez, an independent historian who is close to the ruling Democratic Action party. He will govern until February 1993, when Perez' presidential term ends.